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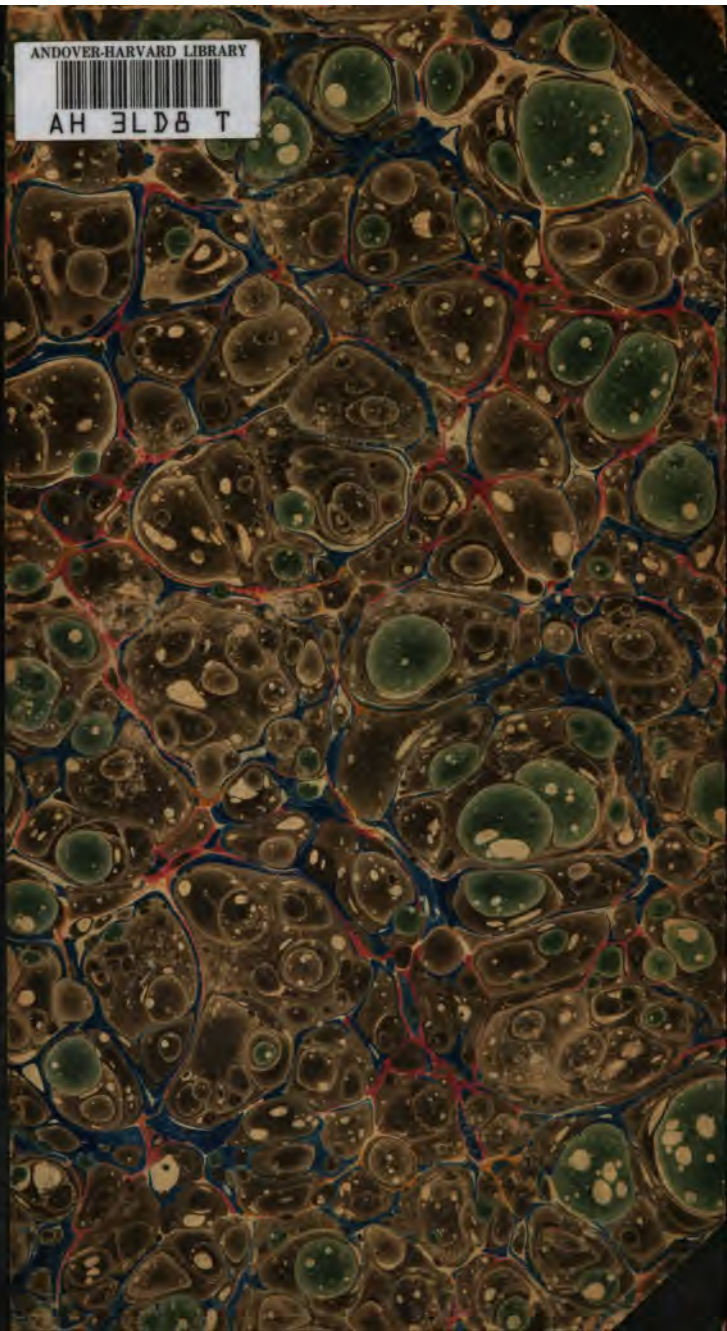
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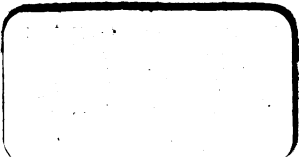
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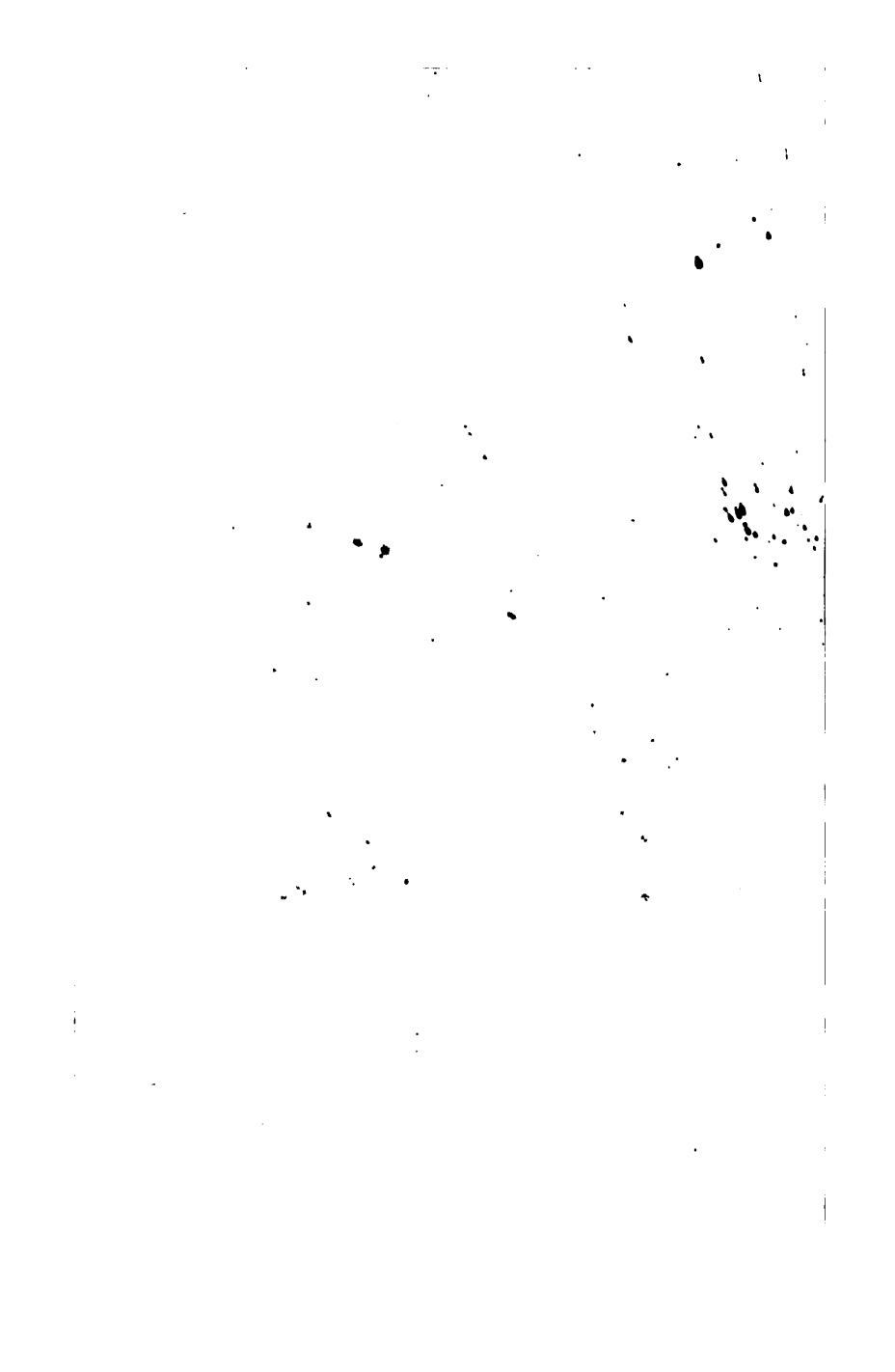
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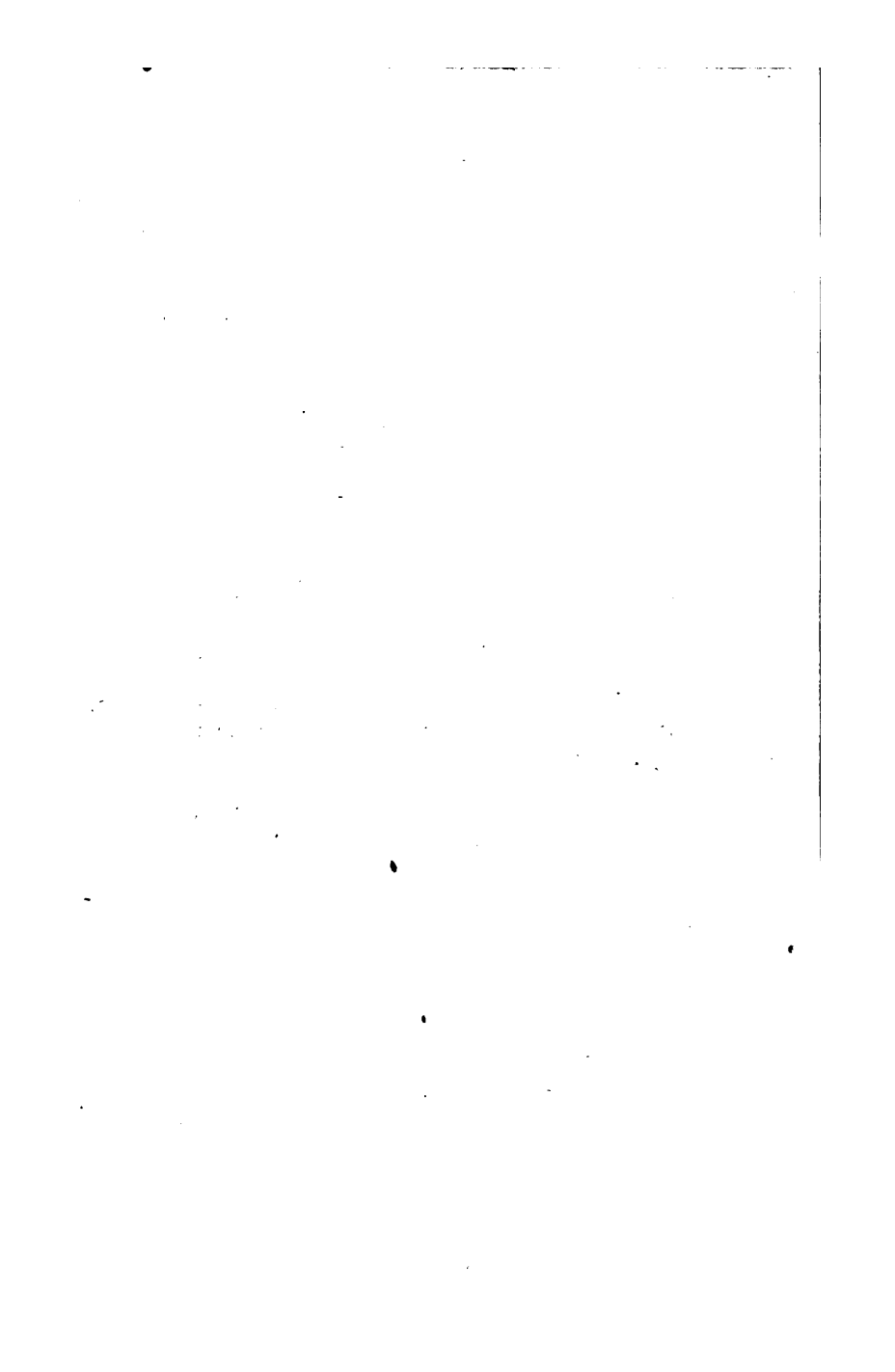
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JANUARY, 1830.

[NO. 1.

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“Heaven Lost.”—See Tract No. 120.

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## TRACT CAUSE IN GREECE.

Greece, unquestionably, now presents one of the most interesting openings in our world for Tract operations. It will give joy to every friend of the American Tract Society, to perceive the most gratifying results occurring from the appropriation, made some months since by the Committee of the Society, through the Rev. Jonas King and the Rev. J. J. Robertson, missionaries to Greece, of the sum of \$450, to aid them in procuring Modern-Greek Tracts for that suffering country. Many encouraging facts, communicated by Rev. Mr. King, showing the great eagerness with which Tracts are received in Greece have been published in the American Tract Magazine and elsewhere. Our readers will not peruse with less interest the following extract of a letter from Rev. Mr. Robertson.

VOL. V.

1

[WHOLE No. 49.

*From Rev. J. J. Robertson, Episcopal Missionary to Greece, dated Calamata, August 2, 1829.*

DEAR SIR—Having now had some experience of the spiritual condition of Greece, and having enjoyed the privilege, through the liberality of the American Tract Society, of putting into wide, and, I trust, profitable circulation, a considerable number of its valuable publications; I employ a leisure hour in giving you some account of what I have seen and done.

Of the English Tracts, I furnished a supply, during my voyage out, to the captain and crew of the vessel, and to my fellow-passengers, officers in the United States' navy, and had the satisfaction to see them frequently read. On my way from Malta to Corfu, I gave a number of copies to three poor Irishwomen, who seemed unable to find sufficiently warm expressions to manifest their gratitude. At Corfu I gave 1000 pages to Rev. Mr. Lowndes, and the like number to Rev. Mr. Winnock, chaplain of the forces in the Ionian Islands, for circulation. To the pious captain of an English collier, I furnished 794 pages; to the lady of a captain in the army 330; to Professor Bambas 272, and to an excellent servant at the inn 110. To Nicoli Conduri, of Lixuvri, I gave 135 pages; to D. Maniaki, principal of the public schools in Ithaca 170; and to Signor Draculi, son of the prefect of the police there, 112. Besides these I have furnished, in smaller numbers, a multitude of persons who had become somewhat acquainted with English. The last I gave at Patras to an Englishwoman who had many years since married a Greek. This evening I have had a new application from a gentleman at the house of the Governor here, who has been acquainted with Mr. Hartley, Dr. Morck, and Mr. Brewer.

#### *French Tracts.*

Of French Tracts, I have still a small supply, but have had opportunities of putting into circulation *thrice the number which I brought out*. In most of the towns of any size, French is either understood or is a subject of study in several of the principal families. The great dearth of books of every description makes them seize with avidity almost any thing that comes in a printed form; and these little preachers of the Gospel are sure of receiving considerable attention. I have thus supplied many respectable families, and have heard warm expressions of gratitude for American liberality. Several French physicians and men of science, have also received copies with pleasure. The sight of our "land's language," when at a distance from our native home, often gives an interest to publications, which, under other circumstances, would be wholly disregarded. Far also from our dearest friends, the mind is often in a pensive frame, and the gayest have hours of reflection favourable to serious impressions, of which it may please God to make these little volumes the instruments.

A large number of Tracts in French I also distributed among soldiers of that nation in the fortresses of Corinth, Patras, Navarin, and Modon. At Navarin I was present when a considerable body of troops embarked on board a frigate to return to their native land. I had with me a number of Tracts, and offered them to some young officers

to distribute them among the crew. At first they thought it a matter of merchandise, and asked the price. I told them that I should feel repaid by their trouble in circulating them. They still seemed not to understand the matter, when, to destroy all suspicion, I begged that they would hand them to the captain, that he might distribute them. Upon this they thanked me in strong terms, and said that they would see them attended to, asking, at the same time, what they could do to serve me. I had scarcely reached the room when one of them called with several officers of the land service who wanted Tracts for their men. They had much to say of the light and liberality of my country; and seemed much interested in the account I gave them of your press. All were anxious to furnish me some gratification. They procured me the latest gazettes, brought me refreshments, helped to forward my letters, and the young naval officer returned very early the next morning with a hat for my servant.

*Modern Greek Tracts.*

With regard to *Greek Tracts*, I have circulated them through a very large portion of the Morea, and some parts of Roumelia, among all classes of persons, both lay and ecclesiastical. *Never have I witnessed such an eagerness for books. In no part of the world, I am convinced, are they more diligently read.* I have seen a priest take a Tract and read it aloud on the Lord's day to a little circle of hearers, in a place where the sound of the preached Gospel had not been heard for more than a year. In fact, there are few places in Greece where the Gospel is preached more than three or four times a year. What better substitute can there be, until a better order of things is introduced, than the circulation of the Bible and these little messengers of truth. And where there is such a readiness to receive and attend to these little silent preachers, how can American Christians, with a safe conscience, neglect to exercise a bounteous liberality toward their impoverished brethren.

In very many places Mr. King had been before me, and the name of the Priest Jonas, for so they generally call him, is always pronounced with respect and affection. At Ægina, where I passed a fortnight, I could scarcely pass through the streets, during the latter part of the time, without a throng after me, with applications for books. The inn was in like manner beset, and I had begun, I believe, to be looked upon by the landlord as almost an unwelcome guest, from the disorder I caused about the house. At Patras, where I spent a week, I had in like manner constant applications.

Having passed a night at a mountain village, between Patras and Tripotamia, the next morning I distributed a few Tracts. When I had got about a mile from the village, I was overtaken by a young man with five or six boys, with a letter from the schoolmaster, begging a supply for his school. I told him that I could not unload the mules until we reached our dining-place four hours ahead, and that as I had already distributed so many, I could not well afford more than six or eight others. "*I will readily follow you the four hours," was the reply.* I was quite overcome with this proof of earnest desire, and could not think of suffering him to walk eight successive hours. Ordering, therefore, the baggage to be unloosed, I sent twenty Tracts to the master, with my best wishes for the prosperity of his school.

I feel, my dear sir, exceedingly grateful to your Society, both for the good which it has enabled me to do; and for the attentions and friendly feeling it has helped me in so many places to secure. I trust, however, that it will be still more liberal to all other disciples of Christ, who may visit this interesting portion of the vineyard.

That this may be done to still better purpose, allow me to make one suggestion to your Committee of selection. The number of Tracts common to your list and those of the presses in Malta is small. A grant from you, therefore, cannot at present be made as efficient as is desirable. Many valuable publications, peculiarly suited to Greece, cannot be purchased with your authority. Would it not then be well for your Committee to obtain copies of all the Malta publications, and pass judgment upon them. In this way their agents in the Mediterranean may have a greater latitude and be more extensively useful.

I have the promise of a Greek translation of "Conversations with a Young Traveller," from an able hand, a Tract which I consider highly important for the educated youth of Greece, particularly those who have visited the European universities. I have engaged to obtain the printing of an edition in America, and I trust the Society will enable me to fulfil the engagement. With the most fervent prayers, for the prosperity and increase of your valuable institution, your sincere friend and brother in Christ.

J. J. ROBERTSON.

### TRACTS IN TURKEY AND GREECE.

The above communication from Rev. Mr. Robertson, has a full corroboration in the following, which will be read with scarcely less interest.

*From Rev. Josiah Brewer, late Missionary on the Mediterranean, who, having returned to the United States, sailed again for Smyrna from the city of New-York, on the 9th ult.*

While I was residing at Constantinople, I had frequent opportunities of distributing Hebrew and Italian Tracts among Jews and Roman Catholics; and though many, particularly of the latter, were gathered up and burnt, yet others, I had reason to believe, proved highly useful. The Armenians also often expressed a desire to have them translated and printed in their language. A few that were sent me in manuscript, by the missionaries at Beyroot, were received with the utmost eagerness. The mission press at Malta has lately begun to furnish these 2,000,000 of an enterprising and hopeful people, with a richer treasure than the caravans of their merchants bring from the farthest countries of the East.

Probably, however, the millions in the Turkish Empire who profess the Greek faith, are most accessible to Divine truth in this and every form.

When I first went over to the Princes Islands (a few miles from Constantinople,) I handed a few Tracts to the passengers and boatmen who were near me. Upon this they all let go their oars, and gathering about me, left their boat for some minutes to the guidance of the

winds and waves—so great was their surprise and delight to read in their own tongue the wonderful works of God. Soon after my arrival, I sent others to the priests and principal persons of the island, and gave some also to a few children around my lodgings. In consequence of this, my doors were immediately thronged by clamorous groups, and for several days *I could not walk the streets without being followed by companies of children, exclaiming in their Turco-Greek dialect, "Chelibe, chelibe, ena phillada."* "Sir, sir, a little book." I made it a rule to give but one to an individual, though I afterwards added a second towards the close of my stay. Still so great was the eagerness to obtain the *philladas*, that many did not hesitate to *utter a falsehood* for this purpose, assuring me that they had not received copies, when I had evidence to the contrary.

At Tatavla, a village near Constantinople, my approach with Tracts literally caused "the lame man to leap as an hart." A poor Greek, with a wooden leg, on seeing them in our hands, came hobbling after us with such manifest hazard of a fall, that I stopped to give him one. This was a signal for a multitude of boys and young men to gather around, and I found no other means of escaping from their importunity than by leaving a few with my companions, while I hastened forward to the school, which was the principal object of our visit.

On the feast of St. George, thousands of Greeks from Constantinople and the coast of Asia, assembled for merry-making at the monastery, on the highest summit of Prinkipo. During several successive days of the festival, I employed a young man to carry round both Tracts and Bibles for sale. Books to be given away, and books to be sold, are two very different things on such a holiday. There were, however, some pleasing instances of purchases made; one by a little boy from a town in Asia Minor. After having parted with three of his four paras for a Tract, he offered part of his dress for others. Of course we did not suffer him to be a loser by his liberal spirit.

I am sorry to be compelled to add, that subsequent observation diminished the favorable impression which this universal eagerness to obtain Tracts was calculated at first to produce. Many of those who could read fluently, were content with merely a hasty perusal, and oftentimes neglected even that. A book they seemed to regard as something to be kept, rather than to be read. The same remark will apply, though to a less extent, to the people of liberated Greece. One principal cause of this is the very defective system on which their schools are conducted. As they learn to read nothing but books in ancient Greek, a habit of inattention and indifference is formed, which it must be the work of time to overcome.

Still there were instances not a few of a happier character. One of the principal merchants, who had formerly been the governor of Prinkipo under the Turks, I always found reading as I passed his door, until the contents of his books were almost committed to memory. An elderly Greek lady, from Constantinople, (since deceased,) I have seen affected to tears on reading some of the narrative Tracts. Many of the children, on condition of receiving a new Tract, would give a very tolerable account of the last which they had studied. And in general, where they were not fully read, they were carefully pre-

served, and will, it is to be hoped, rehearse to others, in future years, the message which they were intended to convey.

It would be tedious to dwell on the thousands of Tracts which I distributed on the shores of the Marmora and the Hellespont; in Troas and Tenedos; in the islands and on the continent of Greece. On my second visit to the latter most inviting field of labor, I sold twenty or thirty thousand in small parcels, to be re-sold by Greek merchants in every part of the country, from Thermopylæ to Crete.

Through the blessing of God, in answer to the prayers of his people, may their influence on that once lovely, yet now desolated region, be as "the dew which descendeth upon the mountains of Zion." Then shall the churches of Corinth and Cenchrea, of Thessalonica and Philippi again revive, and "He whom they ignorantly worship," be loved and served by the multitudes on Mars Hill and at Athens.

### "THE GREAT QUESTION ANSWERED."

[From an esteemed clergyman in New-York City.]

Much as the invaluable Tracts of Flavel, Richmond, More, Hall, and others, have been blessed, I am of the opinion, that no Tract has been more instrumental in promoting the cause of Christ than Fuller's "*Great Question Answered*." The Rev. Dr. Henderson, in an address delivered at the last anniversary of the London Religious Tract Society, bore the following testimony to the usefulness of this Tract.

"It was about twenty-three years, he said, since he first addressed a letter from a foreign shore to the Committee of this Society. About that time had elapsed, since he gave away a Tract called, "*The Great Question Answered*," in Copenhagen, which was made the instrument of carrying the intentions of the Bible Society into effect in Denmark, Switzerland, Iceland, and lastly in the great continent of Russia. In the Danish dominions, where, at that time, infidelity reigned almost uncontrolled, and the Bible had entirely disappeared, there are now, no fewer than 100,000 children receiving the benefit of a scriptural education: In no country in the north of Europe could he (Dr. H.) direct their attention to the saving effects of the Gospel more visibly than in the kingdom of Sweden. When Dr. Paterson and himself went to Lapland, in 1808, they took a quantity of Tracts from Stockholm. There was one place where they distributed several hundreds of Tracts, consisting chiefly of copies of "*The Great Question Answered*." Some years afterwards, they learned that a great sensation had been produced by these Tracts. Inquiry was excited, and almost immediately the saving influences of the Holy Spirit were poured out on those who read them. A concern about the immortal interest of their souls became very general, and the flame thus kindled was communicated from cottage to cottage, till all became thirsty for the waters of everlasting life."

Time would fail, to enumerate the instances on record, where this Tract has comforted the mourners in Zion, and proved a safe guide to those who were inquiring what they must do to be saved. Such are my convictions of the great excellency of this little book, that I think no person should be ignorant of its contents, and no Tract Distributor should be without a constant supply of it. Permit me to add the following narrative of facts, which came under my own observation.

" *The Great Question Answered,*" *blessed to a Young Lady.*

A few weeks since, I was desired to visit Miss B. C., who it was said had for more than a week been in a state of the most awful despair. When I entered the room, and beheld the unhappy victim of terror, writhing under the most excruciating tortures of a guilty conscience, truly my fears were more than realized. I expected to see a poor, dejected, unbelieving sinner inquiring after the way of salvation; but fancy to yourself an intelligent and accountable being, with every faculty of soul and body quickened to the highest degree of sensibility, looking forward to speedy and inevitable destruction. The deep and settled gloom upon her countenance gave appalling evidence of the laboring anguish of her spirit. Almost her first words were: "Do not come near me lest I should contaminate you—no body is so vile and depraved as I am—I am lost for ever!—God will show me no favor—I have been the very worst of sinners, and now all is lost for ever!"

I asked permission to read a few passages of the Bible to her; but the mention of that neglected book almost threw her into convulsions; and when prayer was proposed, she exhibited the same symptoms of alarm, and begged that I would not add to her condemnation by attempting to employ means which, so far as she was concerned, must for ever be unavailing. Never before have I beheld so heart-rending a spectacle, and I hope such a scene may never be repeated.

Finding all attempts to console her in vain, I bade her farewell, with the assurance that I should not fail to pray for her. Fully convinced that the above named Tract was adapted to her wants, I left a copy of it with a member of the family, requesting that it might be placed in her chamber. Two days elapsed before she would touch it; but on the third day she was seen to take it up; and when left alone she read it through. On the first reading, the darkness of unbelief began to vanish from her mind, and after reading it a second and third time, it pleased God to lead her to the foot of the cross. There indeed she now beheld her sinfulness in its true light; but there too she saw the glory and fulness of that atonement which was effected by the death of Christ. She now began to bless God for redeeming mercy through the blood of Jesus, and to rejoice in hope of salvation.

Such are the unvarnished facts in this case. I pray that their publication may promote the glory of God, and the increase of Tract distribution.

### STRIKING EFFECTS OF TRACTS.

At a meeting of a Tract Society, in Cumberland Co. Me., says an Agent, Rev. Mr. ——— stated, that *what he was, he owed, in an important sense, under God, to Tracts* given him when he was a small school-boy. Also that the first fruits of his labors in ———, was a case of the hopeful conversion of a young lady in consequence of the blessing of God on the reading of the Tract *Dinah Doudney*.

I also learned that the *first case of awakening* in a revival of religion in this town, where more than one hundred were in the judgment of charity brought to the knowledge of the truth, was that of an *instructor of a school*, who was brought deeply to feel his need of Christ by reading a *piece of a Tract*, which he found lying upon the floor.



### 'TRACT "AMELIA GALE" FAR AT THE WEST.

Far in the Western wilds, says a highly respectable gentleman, the interesting account of *Amelia Gale* reached my hands, and such was the pleasure enjoyed in the perusal of that narrative, by one who attributes the awakening of his slumbering soul to the divine and precious influence of the grace of Almighty God, that he formed a resolution to perpetuate it to the ages of posterity; and I enclose you 50 dollars for that purpose.

I could add much in favor of Tracts. *To myself they have proved the source of inexpressible joy*; and much instruction has been imparted by my reading them to the isolated inhabitants dispersed over the frontier settlements of our dearly and justly beloved country. I have learned from them one duty, which I perform, in keeping Tracts on my counter for gratuitous distribution. When travelling, a supply is also taken with me. I have placed a set of the bound volumes in a distant settlement to be lent out, and intend to extend my mite in the farther distribution of your works; and farther, I hope, ere long, to add a codicil to my will in a legacy to your all-important and most deserving institution.

### PROGRESS OF THE MONTHLY DISTRIBUTION.

Rarely have we fixed our eyes upon any Christian enterprise in which the finger of Divine Providence has been more distinctly visible, than in the progress and success of the system of monthly Tract distribution.

In *New-York City*, the work has been prosecuted with great success for *ten successive months*; and it is hard to say, whether the blessing into the hearts of the 600 Distributors; or the good accomplished incidentally through their personal influence; or the salutary impressions made through the reading of the Tracts, is the greater ground of thanksgiving and encouragement.

In *Philadelphia*, the work is undertaken systematically, and upwards of 20,000 copies each of Tracts Nos. 46 and 148 are ordered for two successive months.

In *Baltimore*, a most respectable Committee of one member for each Ward, is vigorously prosecuting the work, and 7000 copies of No. 225 are just forwarded for the next monthly distribution.

Among other towns of considerable magnitude, for which Tracts have been ordered for monthly distribution, are Hartford, Middletown, Norwich, Danbury, Conn.; Jamaica, Brooklyn, Poughkeepsie, Catskill, Hudson, Albany, Troy, Salem, Utica, Auburn, Rochester, N. Y.; Newark, Elizabethtown, and Princeton, N. J.; Pittsburgh, Pa.; Alexandria, Dist. Col.; Richmond, Petersburg, Va.; Augusta, Savannah, Darien, Geo.; Natchez, Mi.; Knoxville, Tenn.; Lexington, Danville, Ken.; Cincinnati, Ohio.

Numerous towns of less magnitude, which are supplied from the General Depository in New-York, and many others, supplied by large Branch Societies, as in Boston, Philadelphia, &c. have commenced this work.

In several instances it is commenced for entire Counties; as in

Montgomery Co. N. Y.; Portage, Ashtabula, Lorain and Wood Counties, Ohio.

Indeed, orders are now arriving almost daily for Tracts for the monthly distribution; and the unanimous testimony from every part of the country is, that there is *great encouragement* to prosecute this system of effort. Wherever suitable exertions have been made, success in the effort has, so far as we are informed, invariably followed.

### AGENTS AT THE WEST.

In our next number we shall, Providence permitting, present our readers with many facts showing the abundant labors and animating success of the Society's Agents in the Valley of the Mississippi.

#### \$10 From a Female Missionary on the Mediterranean.

I am glad to see in your Report, that you do not first look into your Treasury and graduate your efforts accordingly; but feel that you must press forward, trusting in God to supply your pecuniary wants. None ever trusted in Him in vain. Friends, I have no doubt, will be raised up to contribute all the funds that shall be needed. I enclose my mite, (\$10,) and feel grateful for the privilege of aiding so noble an object.

#### \$10 for Monthly Distribution.

Meeting one of the professors in the Theological Seminary, says the Agent of the Auxiliary at Auburn, N. Y. he expressed great interest in the monthly Tract distribution in this place, and asking whether our means was sufficient, placed in my hands, unsolicited, \$10, for the object.

## RECEIPTS

### INTO THE TREASURY OF THE AMERICAN TRACT SOCIETY,

*During the month ending December 15, 1829.*

#### FROM AUXILIARY TRACT SOCIETIES.

	For Tr.	Don.
VER.—Pawlet, Rev. Fayette Shepherd, Sec.	1 20	
MASS.—Boston, Amer. Tr. Soc. John Tappan, Esq. Tr.	24 03	
New-Marlborough, (South Soc.) Dea. Gideon Canfield, Sec.	5 56	1 85
Richmond, A. B. Rossiter, Sec.	7 50	12 00
Springfield, S. Warriner, Jun. Tr.	4 52	
R. ISL.—East Greenwich, Michael Burdett,	6 75	2 25
Pawcatuck in Westerly, George P. Maxson, Sec.	1 00	
CONN.—Bethel, Fem. Miss Hannah Starr, Sec.	3 38	1 19
Branford, Fem.		1 12
Brooklyn, (Windham Co. Aux.) Edwin Newbury, Ag.	20 00	
Danbury, Horace Bull, Tr.	3 75	1 25
East Haddam, Fem. Mrs. Sarah B. Parsons, Ag.	12 94	4 31
Guilford, Henry E. Hodges, Ag.	2 40	8 33
North-Killingworth, Fem. Miss Eunice King, Ag.	3 19	1 08
West-Haven, William Stebbins, Sec.	13 55	12 45
N. YORK.—Albany, Central Branch, D. McKercher, Sec.	101 00	
Auburn, C. B. Hotchkiss, Ag.	23 19	
Do. by their Fem. Aux. Genoa,		2 31
Bridgchampton, L. I. Rev. Amzi Francis, Pres.	1 56	

	For Tr.	Don.
Cannonsville, John Randall, Tr.		2 80
Carmel, Miss Elizabeth Belden, Sec.	4 13	1 37
Chatham, Columb. Co. Wm. A. Hutchinson, Sec.	4 13	1 37
do. do. Fem. Mrs. Catharine Hutchinson, Sec.	3 38	3 37
Chenango, Broome Co. Peter Lockwood, Sec.	13 92	4 64
Claverack, Fem. Mrs. G. Gunn,	9 00	3 00
Clove in Rochester, Ulster Co. Rev. B. B. Westfall, Pres.	28 78	9 59
Columbia in Walton, Del. Co. Darius Seely, Sec.		4 00
Delhi, George Wight, Sec.	6 75	2 25
Deposit, Rev. Eliana Wise, Tr.	11 25	3 75
Fishkill Landing, Fem. Miss M. W. Teller, Sec.	5 00	
Glenn's Falls, Elias Hawley, Tr.	12 00	4 00
Harlaem, Fem. Mrs. Ann Ball, Tr.	6 42	
Hempstead, Rockland Co. Fem. Mrs. Elizabeth Coe, Tr.	8 63	2 87
Hopewell in Fishkill, Fem. Mrs. Ann R. Swartwout, Tr.	11 25	3 75
Islip and Huntington South, Henry Brewster, Sec.	11 07	2 91
Jamaica, L. I. Marvin W. Fox, Sec.	2 80	93
Johnstown, (Montgomery Co. Aux.) Xenophon Haywood, Sec.	33 00	
Lansingburgh, E. R. Parmelee, Sec.	14 29	
New Rochelle, Fem. Miss Sophia Brewster, Sec.	1 80	
New-York City Tract Soc. Alfred Edwards, Tr.	425 00	
do. by Fem. Aux. Mrs. J. R. Hurd, Tr.	70 75	
Peru, Clinton Co. Fem. Mrs. Harriet, W. Wells, Ag.	5 27	1 76
Poughkeepsie, Fem. Mrs. Eliza Raymond, Sec.		5 00
Rochester, Ulster Co. Rev. B. B. Westfall, Pres.	21 75	7 25
Somers, John Owen, Pres.	2 25	75
Troy, Charles Lyman, Sec.	30 00	
Upper Bovina, Robert Hamilton, Pres.	12 37	1 00
Utica, Edward Vernon, Sec.	80 00	
N. JER.—Bedminster, John D. Worton, Tr.	16 01	5 34
Frankfort, Sussex Co. Fem. Miss Eliza Gustin, Tr.	1 00	
Jersey City, Fem. Mrs. Sarah Olcott, Sec.	5 60	
Lyon's Farms, Fem. Mrs. R. W. Lambdin, Sec.	1 00	
Newark, Fem. Mrs. Frelinghuysen, Tr.	20 00	80 00
Orange, Allen Dodd, Tr.	4 00	
Pennington, Fem. Eliza A. Rue, Sec.	3 38	1 12
Readingtown, (North Branch,) Martin Wyckoff, Sec.		1 50
Woodbridge, Fem. Miss Jane E. Barron, Tr.	14 46	
PENN.—Erie, Fem. Emily Wight, Sec.	7 44	
Montrose, Jerre Lyons, Tr.	11 00	14 00
DIS. COL.—Alexandria, Fem. Mrs. E. S. Ladd, Sec.	49 20	31 00
Washington City, John Coyle, Jun. Sec.	23 80	11 20
VIR.—Farmville, John Rice, Tr.	40 00	
Leesburg, Loudon Co.		6 25
Winchester, Daniel Gold, Ag.	73 37	
do. by their Fem. Aux. Wickliff Con. Frederick Co.		2 00
GEO.—Augusta, Joel Catlin, Tr.	446 85	
MISS.—Zion's Ch. Covington Co. Norvell Robertson, Jun. Sec.		10 00
TENN.—Knoxville, James Park, Tr.	400 00	
Nashville, Samuel B. Snowden, Tr.	200 00	
KEN.—Midway, (Liv. and Cald. Co. Aux.) Benj. G. Rice, Sec.	10 00	
Richmond, Fem. Susan H. Irvine, Sec.	10 00	
OHIO.—Cincinnati, Henry B. Funk, Tr.	100 00	
Columbus, Aux. Dep. Rev. James Hoge, D. D. Ag.	100 00	
Martinsburgh, J. D. Johnston, Esq. Ag.	51 37	
MICH. TER.—Mackinaw, Robert Stewart, Esq. Sec.	28 50	
SOCIETIES NOT AUXILIARY.		
MASS.—Williamstown, (North Village,)	12 00	
N. YORK.—New-Utrecht, Fem. Bib. Miss. and Tr. Soc. Mrs. Catharine Knapp, Tr.		3 06
Peru, Clinton Co. Temperance Soc. M. Hopper, Tr.		2 50
Windham, Fem.		2 37
N. JER.—Elizabethtown, in 2d Preb. Ch. James Crane, Tr.		3 00

	For Tr.	Don.
Washington, Fem. Miss Phebe S. Miller, Tr.	50	
VIR.—Fredericksburg, Fr. Book and Tr. Soc. R. T. Thom, Tr.	24 57	
Tracts sold at the Depository to individuals, including \$50 for use of room; and \$3 99 cents from Agents,	294 44	

*Directors for Life.*

CONN.—Bridgeport, Rev. J. Blatchford, by E. Wickes, Esq. of Jamaica, N. Y.	50 00
Mrs. Frances Blatchford, by do.	50 00
Lebanon, Daniel Metcalf,	100 00
Norwich City, Rev. Alfred Mitchell, by Ladies, (in part of \$50.)	30 00
N. YORK.—Canandaigua, Rev. Ansel D. Eddy, by Ladies, (in full of \$50.)	16 50
VIR.—Millwood, Frederick Co. Rt. Rev. William Meade, by Ladies, (in full of \$50.)	20 00
Shepherdstown, Rev. Jacob Beecher, by individuals in Shepherdstown and Smithfield, (in part of \$50.)	46 00
Winchester, Rev. William Hill, D. D. by Ladies, (in full of \$54 25.)	34 25
TENN.—Hawkins Co. Rev. James Gallaher, by Ladies of Rogersville and New Providence Congs. (in part of \$50.)	29 18
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Samuel Moss, do.	10 00
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N. JER.—Cranberry, Rev. Symmes C. Henry, by Ladies,	20 00
Monmouth, 1st Presb. Church, Rev. Robt. Roy, by his Ch. and Cong. (in full of \$24.)	1 00
Parkersville, Rev. Mancius S. Hut-ton, by Ladies,	20 00

VIR.—Leesburg, Loudon Co. Rev. E. C. Hutchinson, by his Church and Congregation,	20 00
Washington Co. James King,	20 00
Winchester, Mrs. Elizabeth Barnhart, by Mr. George Barnhart, (in part of \$20.)	10 00
Rev. Lewis Eichelberger, Lutheran Church, by Ladies,	20 00
TENN.—Blountsville, Wm. Deery,	20 00
Kingsport, Rev. Fred. A. Ross, by Ladies,	20 00
<i>Annual Members.</i>	
CONN.—Middletown, Nath. Bacon,	2 00
West Haven, Mrs. Hannah Painter,	2 00
Do. William Stebbins,	2 00
N. YORK.—New-York city, Mrs. Henry Barclay,	2 00
John D. Kirk, \$2; E. Platt, Jun. \$2, 4 00	
N. JER.—Hanover, N. P. Thomas,	2 00
<i>Other Donations.</i>	
R. ISL.—Providence, John C. Cass,	2 00
CONN.—Stonington, a Lady,	2 00
Albany, H. B.	2 50
J. D. Mitchell,	31
Blooming Grove, A. C.	5 00
Canandaigua, Ladies of Rev. Mr. Eddy's Ch. for Val. Miss.	15 00
Deposit, a Friend, 25 cts. Peter Pine, Esq. \$1; Aaron Stiles, \$1; James Stiles, \$1,	3 25
N. York city, C. J. A. for Val. Miss. "First fruits of the practice of a young physician,"	5 00
"Legh Richmond," in part for perpetuating the "Young Cottager,"	2 00
Rensselaerville, Mrs. P. Pratt,	50 00
Windsor, Broome Co. Jonas Woodruff,	3 00
N. JER.—Newark, Miss Augusta Forman, for Val. Miss.	75
Old Frame, Rev. Holloway Hunt,	5 00
PENN.—McConnellsburg, J. Agnew,	1 00
KEN.—Paris, Wm. Alexander,	5 00
The above list contains donations—	
For Val. of Miss.	25 00
In part for perpetuating the "Young Cottager,"	50 00
Whole amount of Donations,	1,195 10
Received for Tracts sold,	3,029 93
Total,	\$4,225 03

## RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

**Occasional Tract No. 6. ON SAILING VESSELS OUT OF PORT ON THE SABBATH.**—pp. 12. This premium Tract, written by MR. EDWARD E. FORD, of Morristown, N. J. urges the strong claims of Seamen on the whole community, founded on their usefulness, hardships, &c. presses upon *Merchants* and *Ship-owners* particularly, the motives for regarding their moral welfare, and as a requisite thereto ceasing to cause their violation of the Sabbath by sailing out of port on that day; and then refutes, at length, the various arguments by which the practice in question is vindicated.

SERIES I.—16 pages 48mo. Price  $\frac{1}{2}$  cent.

## VOL. I.

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|   | 20. Good Child's Soliloquy.             |

## AWARD OF PREMIUM,

*For the best Tract to influence the Young to Abstinence from Ardent Spirit.*

The Publishing Committee of the American Tract Society announce, that there were submitted to them by the Corresponding Secretary, as received by him previous to the first day of November last, 24 manuscript Tracts for the above premium, which were all carefully examined. On opening the sealed envelope which accompanied the Tract on which the choice of the Committee fell, the author was found to be Rev. AUSTIN DICKINSON, of New-York, to whom the premium of fifty dollars was awarded, and its reception generously declined by him. The Tract will immediately be stereotyped and published.

JAMES MILNOR, *Chairman.*

New-York, December 10, 1829.

*Tract on the Character and Prospects of the Heathen.*

The Publishing Committee having made a full examination of the several Tracts submitted to them, on the Character and Prospects of the Heathen, have Resolved,

1. That, although they consider many of the Tracts referred to them as possessed of very considerable merit, no one, in the opinion of the Committee, comprises all the requisites, which a Tract on that interesting subject ought to embrace. Therefore resolved,

2. That the Committee feel themselves obliged to decline awarding the premium to either of the Tracts received; and that the premium be placed at the disposal of the donor. Also, resolved,

3. That the Chairman make public annunciation of the decision of the Committee.

JAMES MILNOR, *Chairman.*

☞ The attention of those interested in the Monthly Tract Distribution is invited to the statements relative to that subject on the cover of this number of the Magazine.

# THE AMERICAN Tract Magazine.

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VOL. V.]

FEBRUARY, 1830.

[NO. 2,

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Then were there brought unto him children, that he should put his hands on them and pray. *Matt. 19: 13.*

## AGENTS OF THE AMERICAN TRACT SOCIETY AT THE WEST.

NONE, who have been contributing of their substance, and offering their prayers to God for the American Tract Society, can fail of regarding with deep interest the success of the Society's operations among the 4,000,000, or 5,000,000 of our countrymen West of the Alleghany mountains. While we say this, we do not overlook the fact, that many towns and villages of the West are richly supplied with the means of Gospel grace; but that the spiritual wants of a very large portion of all the population, particularly that dispersed throughout the almost boundless New Settlements, are such as to call upon every sincere follower of the Lord Jesus Christ to diffuse among them the Gospel, in every form calculated to gain access to the human mind, is denied, we suppose, by no enlightened Christian.

VOL. V.

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[WHOLE No. 50.]

This duty might be urged by a variety of motives; but the Divine institution to save men from eternal death through the promulgation of the Gospel, and the command of the great Head of the church to publish it to every creature, outweigh all other considerations, and leave no room for hesitation or delay. The duty is plain. We know it. We must meet it in the great Day; and we can meet it with joy only as we are faithful in its discharge, now, "while the day lasts, before the night cometh wherein no man can work."

The following facts, communicated by the laborers in this wide field, will show, to some extent, what success has thus far crowned their efforts, and what are the encouragements to sustain them and still to send forth more laborers into the whitened harvest.

#### FROM THE SOCIETY'S GENERAL AGENT AT THE WEST.

Facts are continually occurring which show the cordiality of active Evangelical Christians at the West in relation to the Tract cause; and that God is here opening before us a wide door and effectual. Notwithstanding the number of Agents now employed, I feel that the country is really suffering for the want of more. I have my eye this moment on three different states which greatly need the labors of a faithful persevering Agent in each for at least a year; and there are other portions of this wide field, some of them exceedingly destitute of the means of religious knowledge, where ten other Agents might be immediately and most usefully employed. God is manifestly blessing the Tracts circulated as the instrument of great good. Perhaps no Tracts have been more evidently useful than those on Intemperance. The effects of *Kittredge's Address*, in towns and counties where it has been extensively circulated, are heard of in every direction. A number of men are known to have been influenced by it to *quit the use of whiskey*, and engage in the cause of Temperance. One man was seen standing in the middle of the room in his own house, holding this Tract in one hand, and at the same time swinging his fist and uttering hard words against the man who had sent him the Tract, and against ministers—but *he quit drinking*. At the raising of a building a few days after, it was observed that he drank nothing; and he has since drunk no intoxicating liquors. One mercantile house, in the place where I am now writing, which has dealt largely in whiskey, has quit the trade altogether.

I have already informed you of the spirited efforts made in various places, particularly in several counties of the Western Reserve, Ohio, to supply with a Tract, monthly, every family willing to receive Tracts. The Synod of Ohio and the Cincinnati Synod, at their late meetings, each adopted the following resolution, viz.

"Resolved, That this Synod highly approve of the system adopted by several of the Branches and Auxiliaries of the American Tract Society, of giving one Tract monthly to every family within their limits; and that we recommend to the churches within our bounds to adopt the same system."



## FROM AN AGENT IN OHIO.

The County where I am now laboring is very destitute of religious instruction. There are 6 or 7 small classes, or churches, of different denominations, who have preaching, on week days, about once a fortnight. In this and the adjoining County, I have given donations of 15,000 pages of Tracts; and the few who have taken an interest in the Tract Society have, in one of the Counties, resolved to attempt to supply every family with at least some Tracts. So far as I can learn, more than half the families in those Counties are destitute of the Bible.

A Circuit Judge, residing here, told me that, in trying a certain cause, two individuals were brought in as witnesses—one 15, and the other 11 years of age. On questioning them respecting the nature of an oath, he found that they had never seen a Bible, had never attended any school, or religious meeting; had never heard of future punishment, of God, or of the great Adversary of souls, or at least knew not the distinction between the two, or any of the attributes of either. The father of the children was confused at the questions asked, and upon inquiry, the Judge found him to be a Justice of the Peace in the County, who could neither read nor write.

I could detail to you numerous other facts which would show, in a very striking manner, the need of a more general diffusion of knowledge. I am surprised, when I think how Christians in the older settlements have neglected the moral and religious instruction of these new states. Infidelity is gaining a strong foothold, and soul-destroying errors are without shamefacedness.

It is gratifying to have confidence, that Christians at the East are praying for us, and for the cause for which we labor. Those prayers will prevail before the throne of God. The cause of Christ will yet prosper here. The harvest is ripe; let the reapers thrust in the sickle, and let many more laborers come into the harvest.

The friends of Tracts have great reason for encouragement. I have organized, in the state of Ohio, 87 Auxiliary Societies, and visited 19 others which were previously organized. These Societies are doing great good, and God is blessing their efforts.

An elder in a church where I formed an Auxiliary last winter, recently informed me that *The Young Cottager*, which he sent to his daughter living at a distance, had been instrumental, he trusted, in bringing her to Christ.

A minister in the Baptist connexion informed me, that last spring he received, from an Agent of the American Tract Society, a donation of 1500 pages of Tracts, which he distributed in a very destitute place; where now much religious feeling was manifested, though no means had been used to call up the attention of the people to the subject of religion, except the Tracts and two sermons he had preached.

Another little circumstance, which occurred a few months ago, I think will not be uninteresting:—As I was travelling, I was hailed by a gentleman whom I had just met. He called me by name, and I recognised him as one whom I had publicly addressed about half a year before. He reminded me of my discourse, and particularly my closing remarks on Intemperance. "I had then," said he, "taken my whiskey barrel to the distillery for my summer's use. But I went imme-

diately and countermanded the order. I have gathered my harvest without a drop of intoxicating liquor; and not only myself, but six others, have entirely abstained, one of whom had been guilty of great excess in drinking."

I must tell you also, that if I have met with some dark spots in this state, I have met too with some bright examples of Christian benevolence. I have visited one man, in ordinary circumstances, who works hard and dresses plain, and lives frugally, who has given \$300 during the last year, to the Benevolent Institutions of the age, \$75 of which was a donation to the Tract Society. He is such a Christian as is described by St. James, one who manifests his faith by his works. Surely if all professed Christians had such a spirit, it would not be long before the name of Jesus would be heard and praised far as the ruins of the fall have spread.

#### FROM AN AGENT IN ALABAMA AND TENNESSEE.

In many Counties where I have labored, there is a great destitution of the privileges of the Gospel. Tracts are much needed, and seem to be almost the only means of grace which can be used with many in the sparse and destitute settlements. I have been repeatedly told by solicitors, appointed to obtain subscriptions for the Tract cause, that they have been asked by those to whom they applied, What is a Tract? They had never seen one; but when Tracts were shown them they appeared pleased, and anxious to procure them.

The following extract from the minutes of the Synod of Tennessee, at their meeting in October last, is some evidence of the interest felt by enlightened Christians here in the cause of Tracts.

"Whereas Synod are apprized that the REV. FRANCIS H. CASE, an Agent of the American Tract Society, is now in this section of country for the purpose of forming Auxiliary Societies, Resolved, that this Synod express the warmest approbation of this medium of distributing Evangelical truth; and earnestly recommend to all the lovers of the Lord Jesus Christ, and of their fellow-men, to give their efficient co-operation in this labor of love, by furthering the object of said Agent."

I have succeeded in forming numerous Auxiliary Societies, the amount of the contributions to which has, in many instances, been very liberal; and through the instrumentality of which, some hundreds of thousands of pages of Tracts have been already put into circulation. The evidence of the usefulness of these publications is abundant. We cannot expect to know, in this world, all the good they are the means of accomplishing. Such a disclosure will be made only at the Great Day. Yet we are permitted to know enough of their effects to stimulate us to activity in circulating them among our fellow-men. In addition to the repeated instances I have already communicated, in which they have been blessed, I now give you the following, received from the most authentic sources.

#### *Striking Effects of Tracts.*

A pious man in Alabama informed me, that he brought a quantity of Tracts from South Carolina into the place where he then resided,

about ten years ago, when the settlement was new and the people had no religious books, which exerted a very happy influence; and that he had known several persons who had been awakened, by the reading of Tracts, to a serious attention to the concerns of religion.

Mrs. B., an intelligent and pious lady of Tennessee, informed me that Tracts were the principal means of awakening her attention to the subject of religion. She is now a warm friend of the Tract cause.

Mr. McM. of the county of W. said he had been in the habit of giving Tracts to his scholars. He gave the *Rewards of Drunkenness* to the daughter of an intemperate man. The father sent back the Tract by the little girl, telling her to say to Mr. McM. from him, "If he could not give her a better book, to give her none." He also threatened to burn the Tract if it were returned. Mr. McM. assured the girl it was a good book. She took it home again; it was not burned; but the man soon *quit drinking whiskey*.

Mr. C., of the county of M., gave *Kittredge's Address* to a Mr. H., an intemperate man, living in that vicinity. Mr. H. met him a few weeks afterwards and said, "I did not know that you were so good a friend to me. Some wished me to take Dr. Chambers' medicine. I could not stand that—but I like the little book you gave me very much. I have loaned it to my neighbors; I wish to have them read it, and wish to read it again myself. It contains the truth. The writer of it is a great man."

Mrs. E., of the same county, was confined to a bed of lingering sickness. She had lived in ignorance and utter neglect of religion. Two pious young ladies called to converse with her; but she wished them not to converse on religious subjects, for she said she was gloomy enough already. They replied, "We wish not to make you gloomy, but that you may be enabled to rejoice in God. They conversed with her, and afterwards furnished her with a Bible, and at another time, with the *Dairyman's Daughter*, a part of which they read to her. Her husband, after their departure, also read it to her repeatedly. She became very fond of hearing it; and about one hour before her death, said, "I have been very much enlightened by hearing that Tract. I feel something of the submission which is there described."

After preaching on the subject of my agency at B—, the Rev. Mr. R., previous to our proceeding to form an Auxiliary, made some remarks to the people, in the course of which he said, that he gave the Tract entitled the *Well Conducted Farm*, to an intemperate man who was laboring for him, and asked him if he would read it. He promised to do so. Mr. R. was absent from home for some time after this; but on his return, found that the man, to whom he had given the Tract, had *relinquished the use of whiskey*; become hopefully pious; and united with the Methodist church. The Tract was the means of his awakening.

#### FROM AN AGENT IN WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA.

The Tract cause is going on here better and better. Clergymen and private individuals, of different denominations, give their cordial co-operation. Prejudices against the great plans of benevolence, for which our age is distinguished, are removed; liberal contributions are in many instances made; and much good is done.

I often preach, in behalf of the Tract cause, to *two congregations each day, for many days in succession*. During one week recently, I *preached ten times, and attended constantly to Tract business*. I have great reason for thankfulness, that my health continues so good, in the midst of such arduous labors. The attention to preaching has been great. After preaching lately, on a Lord's Day evening, a number of persons expressed a desire to converse with me on the concerns of the soul—four of them, I found, were rejoicing in hope, and the others anxiously inquiring, "What must we do to be saved?"

On the Sabbath, a week previous, an unusual seriousness was very apparent. The house, which ordinarily holds the congregation, would hold but little more than half the females; and the males, old and young, sat around the house on seats prepared on the spur of the occasion, from rails, boards, &c. Many were suffused in tears. Multitudes came and shook hands with me, with great cordiality. One man informed me that my first sermon on the Lord's day was the *seventh* he had heard me preach.

This evening I have attended one of the most interesting meetings I ever attended. When I was here last, a number of individuals expressed a desire to converse with me on the state of their souls; and as my pressing engagements rendered it then impracticable, I appointed this evening to give all who wished the opportunity. The evening has been rainy—I expected a few; but the room and the kitchen, and passage, as far as I could see, were crowded; and almost all seemed deeply affected, and anxious for their souls' salvation. I conversed with them till nine o'clock; and now, between 10 and 11, several are still conversing, while I am writing. My labor is sufficient to fill up every hour. I end the day fatigued, but rise in the morning refreshed for new efforts.

I preach as if there were but two parties—God's and the Adversary's; and in connexion with my efforts for the Tract cause, endeavor to do all I can to bring those whom I address to give their own hearts to Christ—to enlist themselves in the cause of Temperance—*total abstinence* from intoxicating drinks—and to consecrate themselves, without reserve, to the advancement of the eternal interests of their fellow-men, and the blessed cause of our Redeemer on the earth. In one place, the very men who argued against me, when I first went to them and preached, "Touch not, taste not, handle not," are now the leaders of the Temperance cause. In another place, where I found them all opposed to the Temperance Society, having called with the minister on a merchant of the place, *THE BOTTLE* was brought forward. I began a lecture on total abstinence. The minister could not accord with my opinions; but when I saw him afterwards, he told me he was convinced—that "Touch not, taste not handle not," should thenceforth be his motto. He had conversed with his family on the subject, and had what was in the decanter poured away—he *could not have it drunk about his house—he could not give it away—nor sell it*. His son at first desired to sell it; but on hearing another discourse on Temperance, he told his father he did not wish to sell it. Three Temperance Societies are now formed in the county, and others are *in progress*.

Several very striking additional evidences of the blessing of God

on our labor, I would relate; but I am now exceedingly fatigued, and must bring my letter to a close. I am weary in the work, but not of it, I find so many things to sweeten the labor in the evident blessing of God on Tracts. I trust I feel willing to labor wherever the Committee think I can do the most good in this blessed cause; and to continue my labors till I fall in the work.

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TESTIMONY CONCERNING ONE OF THE SOCIETY'S AGENTS  
AT THE WEST.

I have passed several days, says a cordial friend of the Tract cause, with Rev. Mr. —, Agent of the American Tract Society. Last week *he preached fourteen times, usually to crowded, and sometimes very solemn Congregations.* There is, in a number of places where he has preached, an unusual and apparently increasing attention to the subject of religion.

Not only the general interests of religion, but the cause of Temperance, as well as that of Tracts, has evidently been promoted by his labors. His untiring zeal, and the manner in which he proceeds, convince all, whose minds are open to conviction, that he, at least, is firmly persuaded, that the cause of Tracts is one of the best causes to which a man can devote his life. "Do you ask," said he to his audience on a certain occasion, after preaching a heart-searching discourse, "Why I preach, when going about forming Tract Societies? Many years ago, I resolved to give up a profitable employment, and go from place to place preaching the Gospel; now, I believe I can do as much good preaching as I could then, and twice as much good in the cause of Tracts besides."

To another audience he said, "So long as there are Tracts to be distributed, from Maine to Florida, or from the Atlantic to the remotest settlements of the West, I intend to go forward till I fall in the work. I wish to die at my post, and I consider being engaged in this work, being at my post."

With such an example before me, you will naturally suppose, that, if I possess any of the Christian spirit, it cannot but be aroused to action. I hope I shall long profit by what I have seen and heard from this devoted servant of Christ.

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THE SECOND COMMANDMENT IN AN ITALIAN TRACT.

At the last anniversary of the American Tract Society, the Rev. Mr. Temple, Missionary from Malta, related the following anecdote:

My Teacher, a native of Italy, came into my room one morning, and took up a Tract then lying on my table, and immediately cast his eyes upon the Ten Commandments, which I had inserted at the end. As soon as he had read *the second commandment*, he expressed much astonishment, and asked *whether this was a part of the Decalogue?* I immediately showed him this commandment in Archbishop Martini's Italian translation of the Latin Vulgate. He could not suppress his feelings of surprise on reading this in the Italian Bible, and in a

version too authorized by the Pope. I have lived, said he, fifty years ; have been publicly educated in Italy ; have had the command of a regiment of men, and fought in many campaigns, but till this hour I never knew that such a commandment as this is written on the pages of the Bible !!

This anecdote is sufficient to show how studiously this commandment is kept from the knowledge of the people in Italy. So far as I am able to learn, it is not inserted in any of the Catechisms used by the Roman Catholics on the continent of Europe, and I believe the same is equally true in all other parts of the world where their religion prevails.

### THE MONTHLY DISTRIBUTION.

#### *Origin of this System of Effort.*

The inquiry has been frequently made, "How did this system originate?" We love the system better because we think we have seen how, in the Providence of God, it originated. Christians in New-York, when praying and laboring, and giving, that Tracts might be sent to *every destitute family in the Valley of the Mississippi*, were led to ask, "Are there not multitudes of families in these older states, and even in our own city, who neglect all the means of Gospel grace, who are perishing for lack of vision, and whom it is as truly our duty to supply with Tracts as any in the Valley of the West?" The subject came up for consideration before the Board of the New-York City Tract Society—the obligation was felt—the duty was clear—and the system of giving one Tract monthly to *every family willing to receive it*, that none might be passed by, was commenced without delay in that city, and has been vigorously prosecuted till the present hour.

#### *Progress and Success of the System.*

*Bridgeton West, N. J.*—"God has blessed the distribution of Tracts monthly in this town—there are from 15 to 20 souls, who are anxiously inquiring the way to Heaven, part of whom have been awakened by Tracts."

*Troy, N. Y.*—"The Distributors' reports for December are more interesting than any previously made. Several instances of hopeful conversion have occurred through the instrumentality of Tracts distributed in the previous months."

*Poughkeepsie, N. Y.*—"In July last, about 30 females, with limited means, and many fears that they should not be able to continue the work, commenced the monthly distribution of Tracts. The good hand of the Lord has been with them to help them; and they now present their mite (\$5.) to aid in the distribution of Tracts at the West."

*Boston, Mass.*—"We have had notice, within the last six weeks, of as many as 12 or 15 places in this vicinity, which have commenced the monthly distribution."

*Philadelphia.*—A Circular has been issued by a joint Committee from the Pennsylvania Branch and Philadelphia City Tract Societies, explaining the system of monthly distribution, containing a copy of all the Cards made use of in that city; and presenting the principal considerations that urge to the adoption of this system of effort. Eight Auxiliaries in the vicinity of Philadelphia are pursuing the same system and present very interesting reports,

*Reading, Pa.*—"The town embraces about 1000 families, and is divided into 16 districts, each assigned to one Distributor. The first Tract selected was *The Day of Judgment*. Only 7 families declined receiving it. When the Distributors met to report to each other their success, they found that, whilst they watered others, they themselves were watered by the Spirit of God. They felt that God had owned and smiled upon their efforts."

*Pittsburgh, Pa.*—"A public meeting was called in November, when a considerable number of the most respectable Ladies and Gentlemen of the place came forward and offered their services in the Monthly Tract Distribution. Committees were appointed for each Ward, and the Distributors are now at work, going through this city in the length and breadth thereof. I do hope, and pray, and believe, that this effort may be the *morning star* of brighter days for the churches in this city." Of three Tracts, 4,000 copies each are ordered.

*Washington, Pa.*—"At the monthly concert, this evening, a Committee reported that they had, *during the day*, collected funds enough to sustain the monthly distribution throughout this borough for one year, and a Committee is appointed to select 12 different Tracts, and order a supply of 300 copies of each.

*Lexington, Ken.*—"Of 12 Tracts, 1000 copies each are ordered for monthly distribution for one year.

*Danville, Ken.*—"The distribution of Tracts is regularly continued in this village monthly, and I may add, daily, by members of the Female and Young Men's Auxiliary, and other individuals. The good result, in some degree, is certainly visible. Men who for years have indulged in dissipation, and been very far from religion, have been led, chiefly, there is reason to believe, through the instrumentality of Tracts, to read the Bible, to attend the house of God, to send their children to Sabbath Schools, and some of them even to become teachers themselves. May Almighty God for ever bless all writers, distributors, and readers of Tracts.

We had prepared other items for this number of the Magazine; but are compelled to omit them for want of room.—Those adopting the system of monthly distribution are referred to the suggestions, and particularly the Cards, on the inside of the cover.

### PREMIUM OFFERED.

A benevolent individual has placed in the hands of the undersigned the sum of \$50, to be awarded by Rev. Gardiner Spring, D. D., Rev. Samuel H. Cox, D. D., and Rev. Charles P. M'Ilvaine, to the author of the best Tract addressed to "*the Manufacturers of Ardent Spirits, and to those who furnish materials for the manufactory,*" which shall be presented on or before April 1, 1830. The manuscripts should each be accompanied by a sealed envelope, containing the name of the writer, which will not be opened except in the case of the successful Tract, and should be addressed (*post paid*) to WILLIAM A. HALLOCK, 144 Nassau-street, New-York.

A premium of \$50, to be awarded by Rev. Gardiner Spring, D. D. and Rev. Thomas De Witt, D. D. of New-York, and Rev. Charles P. M'Ilvaine, of Brooklyn, is offered for the best Tract on *Duelling*, which shall be presented on or before March 1, 1830. The manuscripts to be addressed to *Mr. William A. Hallock, No. 144 Nassau-street, New-York.*



### BALTIMORE BRANCH.

The Third Anniversary of this Society was held Nov. 20, 1829, in St. Peter's Church, Sharp-street; the president, Rev. J. P. K. Henshaw, in the chair. The Annual report was read by the Secretary, Rev. J. G. Morris, after the acceptance of which, the following spirited resolution was unanimously adopted, viz.

*RESOLVED, That this Society, with an humble reliance on Divine aid, will endeavor to form, within one year, a Tract Society in every District and congregation which shall cheerfully co-operate with us in this cause, throughout the state of Maryland, with reference to supplying with Tracts every family in the state which is willing to receive them."*

Receipts, during six months, since the preceding anniversary, \$713 87. Circulated, during the same period, besides 62 bound volumes of Tracts and 21 copies Rise and Progress, 511,286 pages; of which 183,809 pages were distributed gratuitously by the various Committees of the Board, &c. Of the Christian Almanac for 1830, 5050 copies had been procured. Number of Auxiliaries recognised 33, of which only 26 have yet contributed to the funds of the Society.

The adoption, by this Branch, of the above very important resolution, in reference to a State embracing about 450,000 inhabitants, calls for special gratitude to God; and if such a work can be done in Maryland, can it not be done throughout our whole country? We hope every other Branch and Auxiliary of the American Tract Society will consider this example, and fail not to carry a similar resolution into effect in their own appropriate field of labor.

### PROPOSAL FOR PERPETUATING BUNYAN'S PILGRIM'S PROGRESS.

The following communication was recently received from a distinguished individual, viz. "Feeling, that, as a means under Providence, aided by the all-powerful influence of the Holy Spirit, the salvation of thousands may depend on stereotyping and perpetuating, by the American Tract Society, *Bunyan's Pilgrim's Progress*, I hereby offer one hundred dollars toward defraying the expense—provided nine others will each contribute the same sum, for the same object, on or before the Anniversary of the Society, to be held on the 12th day of May ensuing."

The Publishing Committee have unanimously approved this excellent work, to be published with the notes of Rev. Dr. Thomas Scott, somewhat abridged. The expense of stereotyping, printing and binding the first edition, is estimated by the Committee at \$1,000. The avails of the first edition, sold at cost will enable the Society to print a 2d edition; the avails of the 2d. a 3d, &c.—and thus the work will be *perpetuated*, and may be circulated, from year to year, with the other publications of the Society, to multitudes of our countrymen, especially in the New Settlements, who otherwise would never have this help in their "Progress through this world to that which is to come."

It is confidently hoped, that other benevolent individuals will cheerfully unite in this excellent design.

## RECEIPTS

## INTO THE TREASURY OF THE AMERICAN TRACT SOCIETY,

*During the month ending January 15, 1830.*

## FROM AUXILIARY TRACT SOCIETIES.

	For Tr.	Don.
VER.—Pawlet, Rev. Fayette Shepherd, Sec.	17 00	10 50
Shoreham, Levi O. Birchard, Ag.	5 25	1 75
Do. Fem Miss Hand, Tr.	4 13	1 37
MASS.—Boston, Am. Tract Soc. John Tappan, Esq. Tr.	1001 00	
R. ISL.—Bristol, Fem. Miss Hannah Church, Sec.	8 00	16 00
East Greenwich, Mr. Burdett, Tr.	8 00	
CONN.—Bozrah, Erin Gifford, Sec.	7 00	7 00
Brooklyn, (Windham Co. Aux.) Edwin Newbury, Ag.	60 00	
Danbury, Horace Bull, Tr.	1 60	53
Darien, Lewis Weed, Sec.	94	
Greenwich, (Stanwich Soc.) Wm. Smith, Tr.	2 40	60
Guilford, Henry E. Hodges, Ag.	3 84	
Humphreysville in Derby, Mrs. Hannah Thompson, Sec.	6 00	6 00
New-Haven, A. Townsend, Jun. Tr.	21 00	
Norwich, Fem. Miss Sarah Backus, Sec.	3 00	
Saybrook, 2d Soc. Mrs. A. P. Champlin, Ag.	9 82	6 18
Sharon, David Gould, Ag.	6 63	
Watertown, Benjamin De Forest, Ag.	5 60	9 40
N. YORK.—Audover, Alleghany Co. Fem. Lydia Allen, Tr.	3 00	
Bethlehem, Robt. Denniston, Sec.	9 73	
Carmel, Red Mills, Fem. Phebe Smith, Sec.	82	
Cherry Valley, Rev. Alex. McCowan, Sec.	30 00	10 00
Fishkill, Fem. Mrs. Sarah P. Dewing, Sec.	15 63	4 37
Fishkill Landing, Fem. Miss M. W. Teller, Sec.	13 00	
Jamaica, L. Marvin W. Fox, Sec.	2 80	93
Middletown, Del. Co. John Dixon, Jun. Tr.	7 50	
New-Windsor, Orange Co. Silas Corwin, Tr.	6 12	1 75
New-York City Tract Soc. Alfred Edwards, Tr.	175 00	
Do. by Fem. Aux. Mrs. J. R. Hurd, Tr.	34 56	
Do. St. George's Ch. Fem. Miss Ann Dominick, Tr.	12 00	
Pleasant Valley, J. Gabaudan, Tr.	7 50	2 50
Sandy Hill, Washington Co. R. C. Gibson, Sec.	2 00	2 00
Shelter Island Fem. Mary C. Gardiner, Sec.	9 00	3 00
Troy, Abner Loveland, Tr.	40 00	
Utica, Edward Vernon, Sec.	12 00	
Virgil, Fem.		3 00
N. JER.—Amwell, John Hageman, Sec.	2 00	
Baskingridge, Horace Sheldon, Tr.	1 52	
Flemington, (New Soc.) Rev. John F. Clark, Sec.	7 25	
Middletown Point, Wm. H. Whitlock, Sec.	9 32	3 10
New-Shannack, Nicholas Williamson, Tr.	20 28	6 76
Princeton, Nassau-Hall, James C. Edwards, Sec.	20 00	
Ramapo, David C. Chrystie, Esq. Tr.	3 48	
Six Mile Run, J. G. Voorhees, Sec.	6 88	6 20
Somerville, Rev. Richard Van Kleeck, Pres.	1 00	
Springfield, Abijah L. Dunnell, Ag.	4 12	88
Stillwater, Fem. Mrs. Sarah Wintermoot, Tr.	2 36	
PENN.—McConnellsburg, M. Augustus Jewett, Sec.	10 03	3 34
Philadelphia Branch, Rev. Joel T. Benedict, Gen. Ag.	500 00	
MD.—Worcester Co. Fem. Miss Maria E. Bredell, Sec.	2 00	
DIS. COL.—Georgetown, James McVean, Sec.	37 50	12 50
VIR.—Buffalo, Fem.		4 68
Prince Edwark, Un. Theol. Sem. John S. McCutchan, Tr.	29 88	5 44
Richmond, Wm. F. Micou, Tr.	97 00	
N. CAR.—Oxford, Lucy F. Lyne, Sec.	10 00	
S. CAR.—Charleston, S. Car. Branch, Rev. John Dickson, Ag.	200 00	
GEO.—Savannah, W. W. Baker, Esq. Sec.	20 00	
ALA.—Huntsville, Samuel Coltart, Ag.	90 00	
KEN.—Danville, M. G. Youce, Ag.	50 00	

	For Tr.	Don.
Lexington, Luther Stephens, Ag. . . . .	196 00	
Louisville, William Mix, Tr. . . . .	120 00	
OHIO.—Chillicothe, Rev. John P. Bauman, Tr. . . . .	25 00	
Cincinnati, Henry B. Funk, Tr. . . . .	323 81	
IND.—Indianapolis, Isaac Coe, Esq. Pres. . . . .	26 59	
Madison, Rev. J. H. Johnston, Sec. . . . .	35 60	
<b>SOCIETIES NOT AUXILIARY.</b>		
N. YORK.—Orange Co. S. School Union, . . . . .	12 00	
N. JER.—Elizabethtown, Un. Tr. Soc. J. J. Bryant, Tr. . . . .	25 60	
Tracts sold at the Depository to individuals, . . . . .	235 68	

*Directors for Life.*

N. YORK.—N. York City, Rev. Austin Dickinson, . . . . .	50 00
Richard T. Haines, . . . . .	200 00
Rev. Henry White, by a member of his Congregation, . . . . .	50 00
N. JER.—New-Shannack, Somerset Co. Rev. Gabriel Ludlow, by his Ch. and Congregation, . . . . .	50 00
Readingtown, (North Branch,) Ref. Dutch Ch. Rev. John Van Liew, by his Ch. and Congregation, . . . . .	50 00

*Members for Life.*

N. HAMP.—Lynde, Rev. Baxter Perry, by Ladies, . . . . .	20 00
CONN.—Hanover, Capt. John Bingham, (in part of \$20) . . . . .	5 00
Dea. Barnabas Huntington, do. . . . .	10 00
Mrs. Julia M. Huntington, do. . . . .	2 00
William Lee, do. . . . .	7 00
Joshua Perkins, Esq. do. . . . .	7 00
Levi Perkins, Esq. do. . . . .	5 00
Plainfield, Mrs. Eliza L. Witter, (in full of \$20) . . . . .	15 00
N. YORK.—Cherry Valley, Mrs. Elizabeth E. Taylor, . . . . .	20 00
Durham, Daniel B. Boothe, (in full of \$20) . . . . .	15 00
N. York City, Rev. James V. Henry, . . . . .	20 00
Charles Walker Morse, by Sidney E. Morse, . . . . .	20 00
Dr. Marinus Willett, Jun. (in full of \$20) . . . . .	10 00
Scotchtown, Orange Co. Mrs. Dorothea Milapaugh, . . . . .	20 00
N. JER.—Flemington, Rev. John F.	

Clerk, by his Cong's. in Flemington and Amwell, . . . . .	20 00
New-Shannack, Somerset Co. Mrs. Susan Ludlow, by sundry indiv. . . . .	20 00
PENN.—Harford, Susq. Co. Rev. Adam Miller, by Ladies, . . . . .	20 00
Washington, Rev. David Elliot, by Ladies of Presb. Ch. . . . .	20 00
VIR.—Farmville, Prince Edw. Co. Mrs. Mary C. Womack . . . . .	20 00

*Annual Members.*

CONN.—Westbrook, Mrs. Jonathan Lay, . . . . .	2 00
N. YORK.—Fishkill, Fan. M. Gary, . . . . .	2 00
N. York City, Dr. Luke Barker, \$2; Mrs. James W. Bleecker, \$2, . . . . .	4 00
Mrs. Letty Hawkins, . . . . .	2 00

*Other Donations.*

VER.—Dorset, Mrs. Wm. Jackson, . . . . .	1 00
Manchester, individuals, . . . . .	1 50
MASS.—“N.” . . . .	50 00
N. YORK.—Cow Neck, L. I. Horatio G. Onderdonk, . . . . .	5 00
N. York City, Lockwood De Forest, . . . . .	15 00
H. Page, a juror's fee, . . . . .	25
Virgil, Mrs. Lydia Bouton, . . . . .	1 00
VIR.—Richmond, Rev. Joseph E. Curtis, . . . . .	3 00
OHIO.—Lucius C. Rouse, Agent, . . . . .	5 00
Marietta, Rev. Luther G. Bingham, prem. for a Tract, . . . . .	50 00

Whole amount of Donations, . . . . .	956 53
Received for Tracts sold, . . . . .	3,678 77

Total, \$4,635 30

**RECENT PUBLICATIONS.**

No. 233. **APPEAL TO AMERICAN YOUTH, ON TEMPERANCE.** *A Premium Tract.* By Rev Austin Dickinson.—pp. 12. Persuading youth, in a very forcible manner, to obtain entirely from ardent spirit; by the consideration. that the use of it will do them no good—is a great and wicked waste—is offensive to the Giver of all mercies—has a perverting and debasing influence—forms a habit extremely difficult to correct—counteracts the influences of the Holy Spirit—prevails among the most despised and degraded—is not tolerated in the most refined circles—while strict temperance promotes the vigor of both mind and body, secures respect and confidence, and is imperiously urged by all true patriotism and philanthropy.

# THE AMERICAN Tract Magazine.

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MARCH, 1830.

[NO. 3.

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Timothy instructed in the Scriptures by his Grandmother Lois and Mother Eunice.  
*See Spanish Tract No. 21.*

## NEW-YORK CITY TRACT SOCIETY.

WE have great pleasure in presenting to our readers a brief notice of the Third Annual meeting of this Society; not only because it was one of the most interesting Tract anniversaries we have ever attended, but specially because the report gives us the gratifying results of the *Monthly Tract Distribution in New-York City for eleven successive months.*

The meeting was held on Wednesday evening, February 3, in the Masonic Hall, Broadway, which, though very large, was full to overflowing. In the absence of Z. LEWIS, Esq. President of the Society, HON. JOHN STEARNS, one of the Vice-Presidents, took the chair; prayer was offered by Rev. Mr. Mason, of the Cedar-street church; and the Annual Report was read by the Corresponding Secretary.

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[WHOLE No. 51.]

Mr. Sidney E. Morse; when three able, evangelical and interesting addresses were made: the first by Rev. Dr. Brodhead, in reference to the general plans, operations and usefulness of the Society; the second by Rev. Dr. Spring, expressing thanks to God for the success of the monthly Tract Distribution, and to the Distributors for their fidelity. It is believed that nearly all the 500 Tract Distributors of the City were present, and being seated together in one end of the Hall, they were addressed by Dr. S. very affectionately and impressively. Rev. Mr. Patton made the closing address, urging the necessity of aiding and sustaining the Society in its operations, in which he stated that the Society had incurred a debt of \$2,276 during the year, over and above their receipts. A subscription was then opened, and a collection taken up, in aid of the funds of the Society, which together amounted to \$1,832 41. Measures were immediately adopted to cancel the whole sum due; and we feel assured that, under the blessing of God, the monthly Tract distribution will never be permitted to cease in New-York City for want of pecuniary means.

*Abstract of the Report.*

The report commenced with stating that the past year had been distinguished for the invention and adoption of one of the happiest schemes devised in modern times for the extension of the Gospel, viz. the plan of presenting a Tract monthly to every family willing to receive it. The plan was first put in operation in this city in March last; and during the eleven months which have since elapsed, has been systematically and faithfully prosecuted. "The plan," says the report, "is simple, but it should not on that account be despised. God has ever chosen to bless the simplest means for the accomplishment of the greatest ends. Naaman, the Syrian, verily thought that there would be much pomp and parade in curing him of his leprosy; but the prophet said, simply, 'Wash and be clean.' Proud Pharisees would make their forms and ceremonies essential to salvation; but God says, 'Believe, and ye shall be saved.' The wit of man had been almost exhausted in devising remedies for intemperance, when it was discovered that simple water, and water only, could effect the cure. It is a simple thing to give a Tract to a neighbor; but do it regularly, and do it every where, and you have the secret of a still greater reformation. You have that which, with the blessing of God, will destroy every vice and nourish every virtue. A year has not elapsed since the plan of monthly distribution commenced in this city, and already the cases of good effected are so numerous, and the results so auspicious, that the limits of our report will allow us to notice scarcely half of those which have been reported.

The following is a brief outline of the plan. The city is divided into about 500 districts, to each of which a distributor is assigned; and it is the duty of each distributor personally to visit every dwelling in his district once a month, to present a Tract to each family willing to receive it, and, as far as circumstances permit, to engage in religious

conversation ; to recommend the reading of the Bible, attendance on public worship, the placing of children in Sabbath Schools ; and, in short, to " promote, by every practicable means, the best interests of the family for this world and the world to come." The population of the city is not far from 300,000 ; the number of families, reported in the month of December, 34,525, in 543 of which, or about one family in 60, the Tract was refused ; number of distributors, 479, of whom 257 are males, and 222 females ; number of families who wish Tracts in foreign languages, 264. The whole number of Tracts distributed, in the fourteen Wards, in the course of the eleven months, during which the plan has been in operation, is nearly 370,000, or more than *one Thousand Tracts every day* ; and in addition to this, the shipping, and steam-boats, the markets, the criminal and humane institutions, the suburbs of the city, the Sabbath schools, the islands in the harbor, and the navy-yard at Brooklyn, have been supplied as formerly by distinct committees.

The whole number of pages of Tracts drawn from the Depository during the year, was 6,374,732, viz.

City Committee, for Monthly Distribution, . . . . .	4,521,793
Shipping and Steam-Boat Committee, . . . . .	886,000
Associations, . . . . .	280,430
New-York Female Branch, . . . . .	300,275
Market Committee, . . . . .	125,000
Humane and Criminal Institutions, . . . . .	87,774
Sunday School Committee, . . . . .	66,960
Suburbs Committee, . . . . .	54,500
Island Committee, . . . . .	20,000
Executive Committee and Subscribers . . . . .	22,000
<b>Total, . . . . .</b>	<b>6,374,732</b>

#### DIVINE BLESSING ON THE MONTHLY DISTRIBUTION.

All the facts of this kind embraced in the Report, would more than fill our Magazine. We select the following.

#### *From the Reports for December.*

In the Fifth Ward, a seafaring man informed one of the distributors, that a sailor belonging to his vessel was brought to rejoice in hope of having become reconciled to God through the instrumentality of Tracts given him by his wife, which Tracts, it is supposed, she received from one of the distributors of this society.

A female distributor in the Ninth Ward, finding a poor colored woman who could not read, but was anxious to learn, sent her son once a day to teach her, and the poor woman, to her great joy, is now able to read her Tracts.

Another lady in this Ward reports one case of conversion of a decided character, produced by the blessing of God on a conversation at the time of leaving the Tract, entitled, " Importance of Consideration."

Four persons, who are now distributors in the Ninth Ward, have been hopefully converted since the plan of monthly distribution commenced ; one of whom was led to attend to his immortal interests in consequence of reading the Tract, " Quench not the Spirit ;" and another, no longer ago than last March, was attached to the society of *Free Enquirers*.

A distributor in the Fourteenth Ward met with a poor but pious old man, who had once been wealthy, and who received a Tract with many thanks. "You see, sir," he said, "that I am poor, but I have seen better days. I am 65 years of age. I once had a large property, but it is gone. I had children, too, but they are all dead—a wife, (and here the tears began to flow,) but six months since she departed to her eternal rest, and on the eve of her departure sang, 'Jesus can make a dying bed,' &c. Ah! sir, there is no delusion here. Many would persuade me that faith in Christ is a delusion, but it is not so. Property is a delusion; I had it, but it has vanished. My children have vanished—my dear wife is gone—but faith in Jesus, that remains."

*January.*

In the First Ward, an old grey-headed man, who had always before received the distributors with sneers and ridicule, and had especially avowed himself an enemy of the Sabbath, now showed himself heartily pleased with the visit. "The Tract which was left with me, entitled, 'A Persuasive to Public Worship,'" said he, "was exactly the thing I needed;" and then, placing his hand on his heart, while his eye glistened with animation, he added, "It touched me here; it convinced me. I hope, sir, you will never forget me."

A lady in the Third Ward informed one of the distributors, that a man recently came to her door, offering clams for sale, and at the same time using shockingly profane language. She called him in, and read to him the Swearer's Prayer. He was deeply affected while she was reading, and when she had finished, thanked her heartily, and offered her half a dollar for the Tract. She presented it to him, and afterwards gave him a Bible also.

The same lady stated, that another copy of the Swearer's Prayer, which she gave to a young man, had not only been blessed as the means of his reformation, but had also awakened a sister of the young man to serious reflection on her spiritual condition.

A lady in the Seventh Ward stated, that her husband had become a new man since he had read the Tract entitled, "Do you want a Friend?" "He was formerly," she said, "careless of the welfare of his soul, but now he makes it his chief concern, and has resolved to devote his life to God."

A man in the Eleventh Ward stated, that the Tract distributed in July, entitled, "Quench not the Spirit," first led him to think seriously on the subject of religion, and that he valued it so highly that he had since carried it in his pocket, that he might often peruse it.

One of the distributors of the Twelfth Ward states, that he has reason to bless God for the day when he became a Tract distributor; for his wife, who had recently died of consumption, during her last sickness had read many of the Tracts which were left with him for distribution, and was thus brought to see her lost condition, and finally to experience joy and peace in believing on the Lord Jesus Christ. Three weeks after this happy change, her spirit took its flight to the eternal world.

In the Fourteenth Ward, a Catholic, to whom a Bible had been presented by one of the distributors in November last, expressed many thanks for the gift, and stated that it was his practice every evening

to require one of his sons to read from it to the family, while they were at their work. The Bible appeared to be much soiled by use; and on inquiry, the distributor found that in the space of two months, during which the volume had been in their possession, they had read nearly the whole of it.

A distributor in the same Ward called on a family in very destitute circumstances, consisting of an old lady and two widowed daughters, one of whom had been very sick for several months, but was now able to sit by the fire. Two Tracts were lying by her side, one of which was that entitled 'Tis all for the Best.' "We had been complaining," she said, "of our hard lot, and the Tracts were exactly suited to our case. We received them yesterday, and though we had little to eat, and no money, we retired to rest after reading them, with no disposition to repine at the dealings of our Heavenly Father." The mother said, "I never spent a happier night." The thoughts of the sick daughter appeared intently occupied with the concerns of her soul.

"Every district in this Ward," says the Superintendent, "has been faithfully occupied for eleven successive months. I have at all times had the names of more who were willing to engage as distributors, than were sufficient to supply the 36 districts of the Ward. Of the 36 distributors who originally commenced in this Ward, 26 continue till the present time, with apparently increasing interest, and 4 have removed from the city or the Ward. The distributors have met monthly to report to each other the success of their labors, and pray for the divine blessing; and the most delightful harmony has bound our hearts together as servants of the same Lord, who were striving to advance his cause on earth, and benefit the souls of our dying fellow-men."

#### *Shipping and Steam-Boat Committee.*

The captain of a North-River sloop informed a distributor, that a Tract on Intemperance was given last spring to one of his neighbors, who a few years since was the most influential man in the village, but who had become a drunkard and an out-cast from society, and that the perusal of the Tract produced such an impression on his mind, that he not only abandoned immediately the intoxicating bowl, but laid hold on the hope set before him in the Gospel. He is now gaining the reputation he once lost, and appears like one raised from the dead.

#### *Island Committee.*

In August, the gentlemen engaged in distributing Tracts among the soldiers on Governor's Island, reported that since the commencement of their labors seven of the soldiers had established a prayer meeting, which was regularly attended twice a week, and there was evidently a change for the better among the soldiers generally. Profanity particularly, was less common than it had been formerly. Within a few weeks one of the distributors reports that several individuals upon that island profess to have been converted to God.

#### *Three Arguments for Monthly Distribution.*

1. *The Effects upon the Distributors.*—"If no other results were to follow this great enterprise," says one of the distributors, "than the discipline it will give the distributors themselves, inspiring devotionai



habits and feelings, government of temper, humility, patience, perseverance and Christian boldness, the work would be worthy of perpetuity."

2. *This plan is the most practicable method of speedily executing the command of our Savior, "Preach the Gospel to every creature."*—The enterprise has at once created in this city a band of 500 domestic missionaries, who, without encroaching upon the rights of the ministry, are carrying some portion of the Gospel every month to every family within our limits. It enables 500 of our most active and warm-hearted Christians to deliver the message of their master twelve times every year, under the most favorable circumstances, to our entire population.

3. *The plan is calculated to promote the objects of other great benevolent institutions.*—The 500 Tract distributors, in addition to their other labors, have reported, during the past year, nearly 1,400 families destitute of the Word of God, who have been supplied. They have been the means of bringing more than 600 children into Sabbath and Infant schools, and have found many cases of temporal suffering which they have caused to be relieved. Their object, in the language of their instructions, is, "to promote, by every practicable method, the best interest of every family, for this world and the world to come."

#### *Progress of the Plan.*

The plan has been already adopted in most of the large towns in the United States, an enumeration of between 30 and 40 of which is embraced in the report, which thus beautifully concludes:

Such are the results of the system commenced in this city only eleven months since. Who could have believed, at our last anniversary, that before one year elapsed, such a system would be extended to all parts of our land, carrying the glad tidings of salvation once every month, on the printed page and by the living messenger, to the doors of one million of our population!

And what has this mighty operation cost us? From the report of the Treasurer, it seems that the expenditure for the past year has been \$5,648, and the receipts, \$3,372; leaving the Society in debt to the amount of \$2,276—an expenditure and a debt, small indeed compared with the magnitude of the good effected; but, small as it is, large enough to stop our wheels, unless it is speedily liquidated. It will be liquidated, we trust, this night. New-York, which commenced the enterprise, and called upon her sister cities to imitate her example, will not be the first to abandon it. The tree which we have planted, and which, like the tree in the revelation, bears twelve manner of fruits, and yields her fruit every month, must be watered here, that its branches may extend throughout the earth, and that its leaves may be for the healing of all nations.

#### **FEMALE BRANCH OF THE NEW-YORK CITY TRACT SOCIETY.**

This Society held its Eighth Anniversary at the Masonic Hall, in connexion with the New-York City Tract Society, on Wednesday evening, February 3, when its proceedings, for between nine and ten

months, since its union with that Institution, were reported, during which time it paid into the Treasury of that Society, including not far from \$400, appropriated at the time of the union, the sum of \$1,098 31.

### USEFULNESS OF TRACTS.

#### *A curse made a blessing, by means of a Tract.*

Mr. B——, of H——, informed me, says an Agent of the American Tract Society in Alabama, that he some months since presented a number of Tracts to a gentleman, requesting him to circulate them in the neighborhood in which he lived. One of these Tracts fell into the hands of a grossly intemperate man. He read it, and immediately abandoned his cups. Mr. B. was not long since near the place where he lives, and having known him well, when very intemperate, was happy to learn that he had not drunk any ardent spirits for three months which have passed since he read the Tract. *From a brute, he has become a man;—from a curse, a blessing.*

#### *Punctuality inculcated; and a husband and wife converted by Tracts.*

[Communicated by an Agent of the American Tract Society.]

Mrs. R., a very intelligent and pious lady of one of the principal towns in Alabama, gave a Tract on the subject of *Lying* to a man who had often promised to come and repair her house, but had as often disregarded his word. The man was very profane and wicked. She handed the Tract to his wife, requesting her to give it to her husband, and inform him who left it. She also gave one on a different subject to the woman. This was done on Saturday evening. Very early on Monday morning the man came to do the work he had so long neglected; told Mrs. R. that he had read the Tract she left for him, and was going to mend his ways, and meant to let her see it. He laid aside his habit of profaneness and falsehood. The next Sabbath Mrs. R. saw both him and his wife at church, wearing the appearance of unusual solemnity. This was the first time she had ever seen them in the house of God, or manifesting any thing like seriousness on the subject of religion. In a short time they gave evidence of piety; and made a public profession of their faith in Christ. The woman was in a few months laid on a bed of sickness, but was happy in the near prospect of death; she left the world rejoicing in hope. Her husband, when last heard from, was a devoted follower of Christ. *They were both awakened and hopefully converted through the instrumentality of two Tracts.*

#### *A Real Convert.*

A gentleman in the County of M——, in Tennessee, says an Agent, was opposed to Tracts; but a Tract Society being formed in his neighborhood, his daughter became a member, and having received and carried home a quantity of Tracts, her father was induced to read them. Some days afterward, he met a friend of the Tract cause, who knew what had been his prejudices, and addressed him thus: "I have become a convert to Tract Societies." Then taking five dol-

lars from his pocket, and putting it into his hand, he added: "I give you this in proof that my conversion is real."

*A Drunkard reclaimed, and a Husband restored, by means of Tracts.*

Three Tracts, says a devoted friend of the Tract cause, one of them on *Drunkenness* and another on *Profane Swearing*, were left by a lady in the family of an intemperate man in Pennsylvania, with whom a still more intemperate neighbor was accustomed to spend the Sabbath in drinking. The latter, in one of his visits, took up the Tracts and read them; but without any visible effects at the time. He afterwards, however, came and requested a loan of the Tracts, saying that he wanted them for his wife, who encouraged his children to swear. He received the Tracts, and again read them himself. Before this, he had been often away from home all night, because he was so inebriated that he could not walk; and his wife had been compelled, for some time, to leave him. But from the time when he last received the Tracts, which is more than a year, he has been a sober and respectable neighbor, has lived happily in the bosom of his family, and has not been known to taste a drop of ardent spirits.

*Kiltredge's Address criticised by a Church Member.*

A member of a church, says the Philadelphia Tract Magazine, traded in spirituous liquors, and daily indulged himself in drinking to excess. He had resisted all attempts toward reformation, having determined in his own mind to maintain his own ground against all opposition. A neighbor handed him *Kiltredge* on Intemperance. He commenced reading with a determination to refute the arguments of the writer as he proceeded. After having proceeded about half way through, he suddenly paused, and exclaimed—"I am wrong—I have been entirely wrong;" and from that hour he has wholly abstained from drinking, and opposes the iniquitous trade of spirituous liquors.

*A HUSBAND and WIFE reading the Tract, "Advantages of Drunkenness."*

A man calling at a store, asked for Rum. A lady present answered that she had none, but could give him something better, and handed him *The wonderful advantages of Drunkenness*. He declined accepting it, as he could not read: but adding that his wife could read, cheerfully accepted of it to carry home to her. They sat down together to read the Tract: as the wife read over one and another of the specific "*advantages*," the husband would reply, that his intoxication had not brought this advantage; but his wife insisted on the case actually being as described in the Tract, and with so much feeling and demonstration, that the intemperate husband could no longer gainsay or resist. Since that time, he has entirely abstained from spirituous liquors.

#### CHARGE OF FICTION IN TRACTS.

Those who call the effects of the Holy Spirit upon the heart enthusiasm and fanaticism often represent the publications of the American Tract Society to be fiction; and what is worthy of observation,

bring the charge most frequently against the Dairyman's Daughter, and other Tracts, the evidence of whose authenticity is spread before the public from the most creditable sources. Would to God that his grace, entering every family, as in the case we are about to mention, might be equally triumphant in its results.

Calling one day on a lady, says an Agent of the American Tract Society in Western Pennsylvania, she said she had been opposed to Tracts, considering them as misrepresenting the exercises of children and others—making them too marvellous to be believed. But, in the course of Divine Providence, one of her children was called to a dying bed, and became a more remarkable instance of Divine grace than any she had ever seen mentioned. She had become the friend of Tracts, and of course cheerfully contributed of her earthly substance to promote their circulation.

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#### AGENT AND GRANT OF TRACTS FOR NEW-ORLEANS.

The Committee of the American Tract Society, in answer to an application from the Society's Board of Agency in New-Orleans, have made a grant of *Five hundred thousand pages of Tracts*, in English and French, for distribution by that Board, chiefly among the population of that city. They have also commissioned Mr. Moses H. Wilder to labor in promoting Tract circulation there as long as the healthiness of the season will permit.

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#### PILGRIM'S PROGRESS.

We are happy to announce, that *Mr. William M. Halsted*, of New-York City, will be the second donor of \$100, in part of \$1000, for perpetuating this work by the American Tract Society, provided eight other individuals shall agree to pay the same amount, on or before the 12th day of May next.

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#### AUXILIARY OF TROY, N. Y.

The Thirteenth Annual Report of this Society, presented January 25, is a most interesting document, the whole of which we should be glad to insert in our pages, did our limits permit. Every word of it tells for the prosperity of the Tract cause. The Society has 13 life and 140 annual members. Circulated during the year, 20,000 pages to Auxiliaries; 32,000 pages to river craft and canal boats; 22,000 pages to Sabbath and common schools; more than 50,000 pages in the *monthly distribution*, commenced in October; the vessels lying at the wharves have been visited and supplied every Sabbath morning; the Gael and House of Industry have received their usual annual appropriations; 13,000 copies of Kittredge's Address on the Effects of Ardent Spirits have been circulated; making the total circulated 342,863 pages, besides 1000 Christian Almanacs. Receipts, during the year,

\$306 48, exclusive of about \$400, subscribed at the anniversary meeting, January, 1829, in donations to the American Tract Society.

Our recent Anniversary, says the Secretary, was truly delightful. When the wants of the Society for the coming year were known, especially for sustaining the monthly distribution, 22 persons made themselves life members, and 17, annual members. The success of the MONTHLY DISTRIBUTION is very great. Out of 1600 families, only from 31 to 36 refuse the Tracts. *The Lord is with us of a truth. Some instances of conversion are already the result, and another, as conspicuous and very gratifying is, that every church in the city feels the influence, by causing people to flock there for instruction.* The language of the Tract is not, 'Go to this, or go to that place of worship; but simply *'Go to the house of God, and the Bible, and see whether these things are so.'* We are very cautious in selecting distributors, who meet once a month with the Board of Managers; and these meetings leave the savour of their influence for hours, days, and weeks afterward. JEREMIAH CHICHESTER, Pres. DR. THOMAS W. BLATCHFORD, Sec. CHARLES LYMAN, Treas.

#### AUXILIARY OF WASHINGTON CITY.

Tenth annual meeting, December 21, 1829. REV. JAMES LAURIE, D. D. President of the Society, presided and opened the meeting by prayer. The Secretary, MR. JOHN COYLE, Jun. read the Annual Report. Resolutions were moved by Mr. Lowrie, and Rev. Messrs. Mewit, Colton, Danforth and Post, in favor of supplying with Tracts the four adjacent counties of the state of Maryland, and of commencing the systematic monthly Tract Distribution in Washington; all of which were adopted. Receipts, during the year, \$236 67. Circulated, during the year, 192,109 pages, making a total of 973,161 pages circulated since the formation of the Society.

#### *Female Auxiliary of St. George's Church, New-York.*

This Society, during its third year, has paid into the Treasury of the American Tract Society *Six Hundred and Twenty-five Dollars as a donation*, besides \$118 60 paid for Tracts. A very happy influence has also been exerted beyond the limits of their own congregation in favor of the Tract cause. Number of pages distributed, 145,840.—"One instance," says the report, "of decided conversion, by means of the Tract entitled *The Shepherd of Salisbury Plain*, we have in our power to relate. This Tract was given by one of our Managers to a young female who professed a disbelief in the divinity of the Savior, and utterly disregarded the salvation of her soul; she read it, became convinced of her lost state as a sinner, and fled for refuge to that Savior whose offers of salvation she had previously slighted. She has publicly professed her faith in Christ, and we believe adorns her profession.

*Young Men's Auxiliary of Cincinnati.* First Annual Meeting November 11. Receipts during the year, \$104 24. Circulated 61,116 pages. Addresses were delivered by Rev. Messrs. Blanchard, Howell, Shinn, Beckwith and Eastman. The prominent subject of the report is the system of monthly distribution, which has been successfully adopted by this and other Tract Societies in Cincinnati.

The *Utica Branch Tract Society* has issued a Circular, urging its Auxiliaries to spirited efforts, and recommending the adoption of the Monthly Distribution.

The *Philadelphia City Tract Society*, Auxiliary to the Pennsylvania Branch, during the second year of its operations, circulated 1,006,995 pages of Tracts; and their receipts amounted to \$700. Special Committees are appointed by this Society for each of the following objects; viz. supplying the Shipping, &c. on the Delaware; Canal boats, &c. on the Schuylkill; Prisons and Humane Institutions; Sabbath and Public Schools; Markets and Hucksters; Taverns and Dram-shops; Livery Stables, Wagoners and Carters; the Colored population; and the Brick-yards. A man in the Pennsylvania Hospital was evidently led to Jesus Christ through the labors of this Society, and a woman of the City was hopefully converted through the Divine blessing on the Tract "*To Day*."

The friends of the *monthly Tract distribution* will find much for their encouragement in the present Number of this work.

### RECEIPTS

#### INTO THE TREASURY OF THE AMERICAN TRACT SOCIETY,

*During the month ending February 15, 1830.*

##### FROM AUXILIARY TRACT SOCIETIES.

	For Tr.	Don.
MASS.—Boston, American Tract Society, John Tappan, Esq. Tr.	1 61	
CONN.—Darien, Charles Whitney, Tr.	2 54	
Guilford, Henry E. Hodges, Ag.	2 88	
Hartford, Conn. Branch, Charles Hosmer, Sec.	137 00	
Madison, Jonathan T. Lee, Tr.	31 50	10 50
New Fairfield, Seelye Barnum, Tr.	4 88	1 62
Norwich, Fem. Miss Sarah Backus, Sec.	3 00	
Trumbull, Fem. Mrs. Lucretia S. Edwards, Sec.	4 13	1 87
West Greenwich, William B. Sherwood, Tr.	10 32	2 32
N. YORK.—Albany, Central Branch, D. M'Kercher, Sec.	150 00	
Brooklyn, L. I. Joseph Howard, Tr.	45 00	
Cherry Valley, Rev. Alexander M'Cowan, Sec.	25	
Florida, Orange County, Dr. H. K. Chapman, Sec.	11 10	11 00
Hempstead, L. I. Rev. Charles Webster, Sec.	7 52	
Islip and Huntington South, Henry Brewster, Sec.	19	
New-York City Tract Society, Alfred Edwards, Tr.	465 00	
Do. African Fem. Mrs. R. Maynard, Directress,	3 00	
Do. St. George's Church Fem. Miss Ann Dominick, Tr.	13 80	
Troy, Abner Loveland, Tr.	50 00	
Utica, Edward Vernon, Sec.	57 00	
N. JERSEY.—Baskingridge, Horace Sheldau, Sec.	3 00	1 00
Elizabethtown, J. J. Bryant, Tr.	1 60	
Kingston, Fem. Miss Jane K. Comfort, Tr.	2 40	
Springfield, Abijah L. Dunnell, Tr.	3 00	
PENN.—Brownsville, (Aux. to Pittsburgh Aux.)	14 90	
Centre Township, do.	4 00	
Dunbar, do.	1 50	
Forks of Cheat, do.	1 00	
Jacob's Creek, do.	10 63	
Philadelphia Branch, Rev. Joel T. Benedict, Gen. Ag.	500 00	
Pittsburgh, Rev. Robert Patterson, Ag.	43 74	
Rich Hill, (Aux. to Pittsburgh Aux.)	10 10	
Ruff's Creek, do.	4 12	
Salt Lick, do.	13 29	
Tyrone, do.	7 76	
Wheatfield Township, do.	22 28	

	For Tr.	Don.
MD.—Baltimore Branch, C. A. Hall, Tr.	400 00	
Hagerstown, Fem. Mrs. Rebecca L. Martin, Sec.	26 63	8 67
DIS. COL.—Washington City, John Kennedy, Tr.	30 00	
VIR.—Charlottesville, (Albemarle Co. Aux.) Rev. P. Bowman, Tr.	20 00	
Norfolk, Robert Robertson, Ag.	5 00	
N. CAR.—Raleigh, Rev. F. W. Dowd, Sec.	25 00	
Salem, William L. Benzon, Sec.	37 50	10 50
S. CAR.—Charleston, S. Car. Branch, Rev. John Dickson, Ag.	100 00	
MISS.—Natchez, Thomas Henderson, Tr.	165 00	
OHIO.—Cincinnati, Henry B. Funk, Tr.	279 50	
Granville, Rev. Jacob Little, Pres.	10 00	
<b>SOCIETIES NOT AUXILIARY.</b>		
CONN.—Litchfield, Temperance Society.	5 40	
N. CAR.—N. Carolina Book Co. by Samuel Paisley, Eno. N. C.	33 62	
Tracts sold at the Depository to individuals, including \$17 50 for use of room, and \$11 67 from Agents,	196 12	

*Directors for Life.*

CONN.—Bristol, Rev. Abner J. Leavenworth, by Ladies, \$53 00  
 MD.—Fredericktown, Rev. John S. Stone, by "an Episcopalian of the Diocese of Connecticut," 100 00

*Members for Life.*

MASS.—Dighton, Bristol Co. Miss Mary Emeline Perry, by her uncle, Jesse Talbot, of New-York, 80 00  
 CONN.—Hartford, John Dillingham, (in part of \$20,) 10 00  
 Do. David F. Robinson, (in part of \$20,) 10 00  
 Do. Mrs. George Putnam, 20 00  
 Jewett City, Nathaniel Coit, Esq. (in part of \$20,) 2 00  
 Do. Joel Hyde, (in part of \$20,) 10 00  
 Do. John Johnson, Esq. do. 2 00  
 Do. Captain John Wilson, do. 5 00  
 Middletown, Jonathan Barnes, by Mrs. Eliza A. Ward, 25 00  
 New-Haven, Dr. Eli Ives, (in part of \$20,) 5 00  
 Do. Titus Street, (in full of \$20,) 15 00  
 Do. Mrs. Henrietta F. Whitney, 25 00  
 Trumbull, Mrs. Rebecca B. Burton, (in full of \$20,) 10 00  
 Do. Rev. James Kant, by Ladies, 20 00  
 Weathersfield, Rocky Hill, Israel Williams, 25 00  
 N. YORK.—Lansingburgh, Rev. Isaac M'Ilvaine, by Ladies of Presbyterian Church, 34 50  
 New-York City, Miss Margaret Beers, by her father, Mr. C. Beers, 20 00  
 Do. Mrs. Isabella Buloid, by a Female Friend, 20 00  
 Do. Jesse Talbot, by a Friend, (in full of \$20,) 5 00  
 Owego, Tioga Co. Susan W. Pumpelly, by her mother, Mrs. M. H. W. Pumpelly, (in part of \$20,) 7 00

West Bloomfield, Rev. Silas C. Brown, by Ladies Sewing Soc. 20 00  
 Do. Rev. Ebenezer, Fitch, D. D. by Ladies Sewing Society, 20 00  
 PENN.—West Alexandria, Rev. John M'Cluskey, by his Church and Congregation, 20 00

*Annual Director.*

N. YORK.—New-York City, Stephen Reed, 5 00

*Other Donations.*

MAINE.—Lebanon, Individuals, by James Weston, 5 00  
 CONN.—Hartford, Ladies for Valley of Mississippi, 7 79  
 Madison, Jonathan T. Lee, 1 00  
 N. YORK.—Candor, Tioga County, Ebenezer Woodbridge, 50  
 Tioga, Tioga County, Erastus Goodrich, 1 00  
 Troy, A Friend, for Tracts for Greece, 10 00  
 Westford, David Williams, 2 50  
 Youngstown, S. Thompson, 5 00  
 N. JER.—Princeton, F. S. Mines, 50 cts. do. avails of jewelry, received while Agent of the Society, \$1 50, 2 00  
 PENN.—Pittsburgh, J. D. Davis, 2 00  
 VIR.—Lexington, J. F. Carothers, Esq. 3 50  
 Ohio, received by Rev. C. W. Conant, for preaching a sermon, 2 00  
 ILL.—Palestine, Edw. H. Piper, 5 00  
 The above list contains Donations—  
 For Vall. Miss. \$7 79  
 For Greece, 10 00  
 Whole amount of Donations, 603 47  
 Received for Tracts sold, 2,967 91  
 Total, \$3,581 38

# THE AMERICAN Tract Magazine.

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VOL. V.]

APRIL, 1880.

[NO. 4.

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Christ teaching his disciples to pray.

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## USEFULNESS OF TRACTS.

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No devout friend of the Tract cause, we are persuaded, will read the following simple statements, from different and very distant parts of the country, without having his heart swell with joy and thanksgiving to God.

### TRACTS IN THE MOUNTAINS OF EAST TENNESSEE.

[Communicated to the Salem, N. C. Auxiliary Tract Society by a former member now, we believe, a missionary to the Western Indians.]

On the banks of the wild Watauga, embosomed in the frowning mountains of Carter County, (Tennessee,) in a situation truly romantic and lovely, we stopped for refreshments at a house whose master was the oldest settler in this region. He soon made his appearance, and presented the spectacle so grating to a philanthropist—a drunken



not—who glories, as it were, in his fatal propensity, and who has a joke in store for every thing, even for man's most sacred feelings. As a natural consequence of the bad example of the parent, his numerous family had imbibed no fixed habits or correct principles, and his outward concerns seemed to be as delapidated as the tottering gray-haired son of Intemperance. It was a sad scene! But mark the cheering contrast!—a few weeks after I again called at his house. Every thing presented a new appearance; the old man himself was so accommodating, so kind, so respectable, so entirely the counterpart of what he had been a short time before, that I had almost failed to identify him with his former puerile and brutish conduct. But he himself explained the blessed change. "It was the Missionary's Tract that you presented to me," said he, "which has effected it. I will no longer indulge in a propensity so pregnant with deplorable effects. *I trust God will be my stay and support, and not the spirit of alcohol.*" The three-stringed viol was likewise banished from its favorite spot, near the fire-side; as the zealous and reclaimed man protested, that frolics and all amusements that lead to sin should no more take place in his house or with his connivance. I parted in friendship with him, affected with the vivid contrast I had witnessed, and practically convinced of the great efficacy of an excellent Tract, judiciously distributed. I shall ever with pleasure recall Mr. D. of the Watauga.

In another part of East Tennessee my friend and myself entered the house of a respectable lady, and in the conversation that ensued we insensibly entered upon the spirit of the times, and the great attempts made to evangelize so many parts of the world, at home and abroad. She lamented the benighted state of the neighboring regions, and their great need of spiritual guides and instructors. She was greatly pleased with the charitable object of Tract Societies, which we explained to her; and when we presented her with some of their publications, she thanked us with eloquent tears, and implored heaven to bless us and all those who were instrumental in the sweet task of distributing these "flying messengers of Christianity." Her gratitude was unbounded, and she forced us to accept apples and other little gifts, which are real delicacies on a long and fatiguing journey. Her prayers for the perfect success of all missionaries accompanied us when we took an affectionate farewell. I never prized a Tract so highly as at this very moment, when it was productive of such unalloyed and virtuous pleasure.

The morning was cold, the roads stubborn, and the mountain environs gloomy. I walked in advance of our caravan, indulging in mental soliloquies, when my attention was attracted to a figure at the edge of the wood. The man had a remarkable appearance; sternness of mind and inflexibility of temper formed the predominant traits of his countenance. I addressed him, and soon became aware that he was one of those unfortunate beings who deny the positive good in all Christian denominations, because abuses and irregularities are to be detected in all sects; and who therefore forswear all communion with Christian churches, and lead a hermit life in the wilderness and mountains. He was truly a separatist; and I was curious to know whether he would likewise refuse a Tract. But, to my great joy, he grasped the precious paper with sparkling eyes, and promised to peruse and re-

peruse the pamphlet. Even a hermit, a dissenter from all denominations of Christians, acknowledges the beneficial operations of Tracts. "Man of the woods, may you too be reclaimed by imbibing the true spirit of Christianity!"

#### TRACT BLESSED TO A CLERGYMAN'S ONLY SON.

While at G——, in Tennessee, says an Agent of the American Tract Society, I heard the Rev. Dr. —— and his Lady, who I knew were eminent for piety, speaking much in favor of the Tract cause. The Doctor at length said, "We have good reasons for being the friends of Tracts. Our son received his first serious impressions in reading one." On inquiry, I found the Tract was *Little Henry and his Bearers*. The youth who read the Tract and was awakened by it is their only child.

#### TRACTS BLESSED TO A FERRYMAN ON THE TENNESSEE.

I was informed by the Rev. Mr. C——, of F——, says an Agent of the American Tract Society in Alabama, that Tracts had been the means of great good to a Ferryman on the Tennessee River. He was very profane, and so violent and passionate, that Rev. Mr. C. thought it imprudent to address him on the subject of religion, or even to present him with a Tract. Whenever Mr. C. had occasion, however, to cross the river, he left some Tracts in the cabin of the boat. After a while he discovered a change in the deportment of the Ferryman. He had become more mild, and was less profane. At length he desired Mr. C. to lend him religious books, especially Tracts; saying that he was much interested in reading them. His reading of Tracts has proved a rich blessing to him; for he has become a useful member of society, and an exemplary and useful member of the church of Christ.

Another man in the same boat has been much reformed in his external character by the reading of Tracts; and his language now is, "I do not intend to live any longer such a wicked life as I have done."

#### THE TRACT "AN ADDRESS TO YOUTH," BLESSED TO A YOUNG LADY.

Miss M——, of Indiana, writes an Agent of the American Tract Society, became a member of an Auxiliary Society, and received and read the Tract *An Address to Youth*. She had been amiable in her deportment, but the Tract convinced her that her heart was not right with God; showed her her sinfulness, and opened to her view, for the first time, the narrow way to heaven. She was led to prostrate herself before God, with a broken and penitent heart, in prayer; and to give herself to Him, to be his for ever. She is now a professor of religion, and gives bright and increasing evidence of having experienced a great change.

#### USEFULNESS OF TRACTS IN GEORGIA.

[Communicated by Mr. Albert Hale, Agent of the American Tract Society.]

An individual in A—— related to me the following fact: While engaged in visiting some poor families, for a benevolent purpose, and distributing Tracts as his custom was, he gave some to one family, the members of which were not in the habit of attending on any of the

means of grace. Soon they were seen in God's house on the Sabbath, and both are now members of the Methodist church.

Another man in the same place told me that he had, within a few days, visited a person living about 16 miles distant, who was under deep concern for her soul. He asked her how she was awakened. She told him it was by reading the Tract *Sixteen Short Sermons*—a clause in the last part of the first sermon came home to her heart, and she has had no peace since. She appeared like one on the threshold of the kingdom of God. She belongs to a very worldly family, and until she read the Tract, had been herself as worldly as any of them. What will be the result eternity will disclose.

A female member of the Tract Society in M—— received her portion of Tracts, among which was the *Swearer's Prayer*. She immediately resolved to give it to a very profane man, who, I think, was a member of her family. He read the Tract, and from that time broke off from this degrading vice, and has since made a public profession of religion, and hopes he is walking by faith to his home in the heavens.

On my arrival at S—— I called on a man and told him I was engaged in the Tract cause. He appeared much gratified in the thought of having a Tract Society in his neighborhood, and told me he had long been in the habit of buying and distributing Tracts, and believed they were the means of great good. "I some time since," he added, "distributed some Tracts in a neighborhood a few miles from this place, and the result was that three families, not an individual of which had been known to attend on the preaching of the Gospel before, began to frequent the places of public worship; and now eight persons from those families are professors of religion, and give pleasing evidence that they are the true worshippers of God."

#### EXCELLENT FRUITS FROM THE READING OF A TRACT.

I have frequently, says a devoted friend of Tracts in Virginia, conversed with the individual mentioned on page 38 of your 4th very interesting Annual Report, as having been benefited by hearing the Tract *Little Henry and his Bearer* read. He has, since that account was given, entered into full communion with the church, and gives evidence of grace in the heart, though he cannot read. *The pocket Bible I ordered in my last was for him, to be presented to the young Lady who read the Tract to him.*

On receiving a late number of the Tract Magazine, I read it at a prayer meeting, at which the person alluded to above was present. After the meeting he told me, with the big tear bursting from his eyes, that the hearing of that Magazine had led him to determine to give \$5 to aid your Society in its good work. He has since given \$15 more, which, added to the \$5, will constitute him a member for life.

#### KITTREDGE'S ADDRESS.

A gentleman of wealth and influence in —, N. J. says an Agent of the American Tract Society, who had a number of men in his employ, was accustomed to treat them daily with ardent spirits. I left in his family *Kittredge's Address*, which, the family being called together, was read to them by a pious Lady. The mind of the Gentleman was deeply impressed by it. That night he could not rest. In the morn-

ing he resolved to use no more ardent spirits himself or in his family, except as a medicine. He called his workmen together; told them that, from a conscientious regard to duty, he could give them no more ardent spirits. If they would work for wages and good treatment, he would be glad; otherwise he could not employ them.

### THREE TRACTS BLESSED IN WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA.

[Communicated by an Agent of the American Tract Society.]

A young Lady having received from her pastor a copy of the Swearer's Prayer, carried it home and presented it to her brother. He received it from her hand; but on seeing its title said, with considerable warmth, "Why do you give this to me? I don't swear." She replied that, if he did not, the reading of the Tract might be useful to him. He read it; and though he was not a profane swearer, yet the presentation to his mind of *the enormity of one sin*, led him to see that he was *guilty of other sins*, on account of which, if he did not obtain pardon, he must be miserable, both in time and eternity. With these feelings, deep and pungent as they were, he sought relief at the foot of the cross, and found that "the blood of Jesus Christ cleanseth from all sin." He is now an exemplary member of an Evangelical church.

A Lady, who had been for ten years a professor of religion, was brought to the enjoyment of the Savior through the reading of the *Dairyman's Daughter*.

A young Lady, who had been under deep convictions for some time and could find no relief, was at last brought to enjoy peace of mind by reading the Tract on *the Christian's Alonement*.

### TRACT PRESENTED BY A YOUNG LADY TO HER FATHER.

A Lady in Massachusetts, after stating that, in several instances, persons had expressed to her great gratitude for Tracts, which they trusted God had blessed to their conversion, adds the following narrative:

I had a father who had entertained a hope five years, but had not made a profession of religion—a trembling hope it was—I could not rest while he was thus situated. One day, while he was busily perusing a History, I placed on his desk a Tract on the nature of *Saving Faith*. He perused it again and again, and was soon exercised with the most pungent convictions for sin, which was followed by transports of joy. He truly found peace in believing; anited himself with the church; lived a devout life; and a few months since died in the triumphs of faith. After his decease we found that Tract carefully preserved among his papers, and a passage in his diary giving an account of the impressions he had received from reading it.

### OTHER GOOD EFFECTS OF TRACTS:

Of the usefulness of Tracts, says the Secretary of an Auxillary in New-York, there is no doubt. The Tract *Way to be Saved* has been beneficial in directing an inquiring and doubting mind to Christ.

The salutary influence of Tracts here, says the Secretary of an Auxillary in Kentucky, is very perceptible. Some who were formerly

profane have ceased swearing, others have been hopefully reclaimed from Intemperance, and some Christians have been stimulated, encouraged, and comforted by the perusal of Tracts.

### PROGRESS OF THE MONTHLY DISTRIBUTION.

The following items, relative to the progress and success of the systematic monthly Tract distribution in various parts of the country, are principally extracted from the correspondence of the American Tract Society, under different dates.

*Knorrville, Ten.*—"The Female Auxiliary is still actively engaged in the monthly distribution. They have thoroughly prosecuted their work for 3 successive months. One of the Distributors informed me, this evening, that she felt a growing interest in the distribution. She had found in her district two families destitute of the Bible; and two persons, who have rarely attended public worship, that were anxiously inquiring what they must do to be saved. The Ladies have thus far received nearly money enough to pay for the Tracts distributed; and there is evidently an increased interest felt in the Tract cause in this town, in consequence of the systematic distribution."

*Nashville, Ten.*—One thousand copies of 13 Tracts ordered.

*Wood County, Ohio.*—Two hundred copies of 13 Tracts ordered.

*In Ashtabula County, Ohio,* an effort is commenced to put a Tract, monthly, during the year 1830, into every family.

*Natchez, Miss.*—"The manner in which the Tracts are received is often truly gratifying, and the Distributors generally appear much pleased with the work. One active Female Distributor, upon hearing that some of her female coadjutors were growing weary of the distribution, expressed much surprise, saying that she thought it would be the means of doing great good, and if others could not be found to discharge the duty, she would take it upon herself to occupy *any number of Districts that should be necessary.*"

*Middletown, Con.*—"Our Society have distributed over 1000 Tracts this month—only 3 families have refused to receive them."

*Brooklyn, Con.*—During the last month every family in this town willing to receive a Tract was supplied with "*The Sanctuary.*" But one family is reported as having refused the Tract. The Distributors are delighted with the duty.

*Rochester, Monroe Co. N. Y.*—"We are making our monthly distributions, and thus far are much pleased with the system."

*New-Brunswick, N. J.*—400 copies ordered.

*Newport, R. I.*—The Tract *Worth of the Soul* was distributed to 1276 families the present month, and was refused in four instances only—1300 copies of two additional Tracts are ordered.

*Charleston, S. C.*—3500 of 4 Tracts are ordered for four months' distribution.

*Darien, Geo.*—Copies of 7 Tracts ordered for 7 successive months.

*Louisville, Ken.*—1000 copies of 7 Tracts ordered.

*Cherry Valley, N. Y.*—"We cannot but think good will be the result of the monthly distribution. Our distributors appear to be faithful, and the Tracts are well received."

*Gettysburg, Pa.*—"We have recently introduced the monthly distribution here, and expect the most blessed results."

*Utica, N. Y.*—The Reports of the Distributors for January, as condensed, occupy nearly three columns of the Western Recorder. In one district two individuals informed the distributor that the *Pernuissive to Public Worship*, distributed the preceding month, had been blessed to themselves; and another, that her husband, who had for some time absented himself from the house of God, now attends on the means of grace.—"Formerly," said a man in another district, "I never attended church; but since I read the last month's Tract, I have attended every Sabbath." Another who was induced, merely by curiosity, to read the Tract, was taught by it that she had a sinful heart.—In the district at Deerfield Corners, a Temperance Society has been formed, a Prayer Meeting established, and four persons found who are willing to engage as Tract distributors.—A very happy influence has been exerted, not only in inducing an attendance on public worship, but in behalf of the Bible and Sabbath School cause; and the temporal wants of the poor and destitute have, by no means, been overlooked.

The Branch Tract Society at *Philadelphia* have recently issued a Circular to their Auxiliaries, recommending to them the adoption of the monthly distribution.

*Danbury, Conn.*—500 copies ordered for several successive months.

*Savannah, Geo.*—1,050 copies of 5 Tracts ordered.

*Elmira, N. Y.*—"Our monthly distribution goes on well. We distribute about 140 Tracts, and not one is refused."

For *Hartford, Alexandria, and Huntsville*, see pages 44, 45.

#### *Remarks.*

1. No friend of the Tract cause should make this system of effort an excuse for the neglect of promiscuous distribution, wherever Providence opens before him the opportunity of usefulness.

2. Early provision should be made for procuring the Tracts. We think the course adopted by the Branch Society at Pittsburgh deserving the attention of Branches and Auxiliaries owning Depositories, from which minor Auxiliaries are supplied; viz. ordering a large supply of a number of select Tracts, perhaps from 10 to 20, and then giving notice to their Auxiliaries, that of those particular Tracts they have a supply for the monthly distribution.

### CONNECTICUT BRANCH, HARTFORD.

The Fourteenth Anniversary was held January 6, 1830. Rev. J. H. LINSEY, the President, opened the meeting by prayer. Addresses were delivered by Rev. G. A. Davis, Rev. T. H. Gallaudet, Rev. W. C. Woodbridge, Rev. Joel Hawes, and Rev. Mr. Stearns, of Bedford, Mass. Among the resolutions adopted was the following:

*Resolved*, That this meeting view, with pleasure, the plan of monthly Tract distribution, adopted with so much success by the Ladies of this city; and that it is desirable that systematic efforts should be made in each county, to extend its benefits to the entire population of the State.

Receipts, during the year, in donations, \$386 27; for Tracts and

Almanacs sold, \$365 60; total \$1,251 00. Circulated, during the year, 95,026 Tracts, including 5,240 Handbills, and 24 copies of the Rise and Progress, Saints' Rest, and Christian Reader. Gratuitous distribution in Ohio, Missouri, Alabama, Mississippi, and New-York, 7,767 Tracts. Total circulated, since the formation of the Society, 639,776 Tracts.

The report gives a brief and interesting history of the Monthly Tract Distribution in Hartford, which was commenced in June last by the Ladies' Tract Society. A large number of Ladies cheerfully undertook the task of distributing, without complaining of the labor it imposed; and their united testimony is, that the difficulties have been fewer, and the pleasures greater, than they had expected. Several families found destitute of the Bible have been supplied, parents have been induced to send their children to Sabbath Schools, and new members of the Tract Society have been obtained. The sick have been conversed with; instruction has been given to the ignorant, and consolation to the desponding and afflicted. About 1200 Tracts are circulated in each month's distribution.

After stating that the exercises of the preceding Annual Meeting resulted in the raising of \$1,100, in the City of Hartford, to aid the American Tract Society in its operations, particularly in the Valley of the Mississippi, the report proceeds to urge the inconceivable importance of supplying the population of that portion of our land, and the destitute of all other lands, with religious Tracts. CHARLES HOSMER, Corresponding Secretary and Agent.

#### FEMALE AUXILIARY OF ALEXANDRIA, D. C.

Receipts, during the year, being the first year of their operations, \$150 for a Depository, of which \$75 was from one individual;—\$187 22 other donations; \$25 38 for the sale of Tracts;—total, \$362 60. The town has been divided into 12 districts, allotted to the different Managers, to be visited at least once a month, for the purpose of loaning Tracts, reading them, or any other way promoting the spiritual interests of those within the sphere of their influence. About 240 families have been visited and supplied with Tracts; the spiritual wants of many destitute of the means of grace have been ascertained; some who were destitute of the Bible have been supplied; some children brought to Sabbath Schools; many who neglected public worship have been persuaded to attend; and one individual has been hopefully *reclaimed from Drunkenness* by the reading of the Tracts.

#### AUXILIARY OF EAST TENNESSEE.

Tenth Anniversary, held in Knoxville, December 7. In the absence of Rev. Charles Coffin, D. D: President, Rev. T. H. Nelson presided. The Treasurer's Report was presented by James Park, Esq. and the Annual Report read by Rev. Stephen Foster, Secretary.

Receipts, during the year, \$616 24, of which \$260 were donations for the Depository. Circulated, 333,510 pages. Number of Auxiliaries 25. The location of this Society being so far interior, the expenses

of transportation are necessarily great, which the report urges as a reason for liberal contributions to sustain the Depository. The monthly distribution is successfully prosecuted by the Female Auxiliary of Knoxville.

*The Young Collager* was presented by the Treasurer to a gentleman, who received it with apparent reluctance, but carried it home. Returning to his family, after a few hours absence, he found his wife reading the Tract, with tears flowing from her eyes. This induced him to read the Tract himself, which he also did with tears, and immediately addressed a letter to the donor, expressing his gratitude for what he at first received as of little value.

### AUXILIARY OF HUNTSVILLE, ALABAMA.

Third Anniversary, January 19. After prayer, an appropriate introductory address was delivered by the President, JAMES G. BIRNEY, Esq.; and after the reading of the Report, an interesting address was delivered by the Rev. JOHN ALLAN.

Receipts during the year, \$1,176 89, including donations of \$302 for the Depository; \$59 11 from Auxiliaries; \$36 25 from Annual subscribers. Circulated, during the year, 578,858 pages of 12 mo. Tracts, 518 Children's Tracts, 130 Broad-sheets, 1,800 Handbills, 363 Tract volumes, 140 "Rise and Progress" and "Saints' Rest," 23 "Boatswain's Mate," and 2,000 Christian Almanacs.

The Report mentions with gratitude the labors of Rev. O. EASTMAN and Rev. FRANCIS H. CASE, Agents of the Parent Society, in Huntsville and the vicinity; also that, in two instances, *family worship* has been established in consequence of reading the Tract on that subject; and that a donation has been received from a gentleman of four five franc pieces, which he had formerly used to keep his game when playing *at cards*. The Society has resolved to commence the monthly distribution, which is already prosecuted in seven villages in the vicinity, in which two men have pledged themselves for the annual sum of \$6 each, which has been their *yearly tax for tobacco*.

The Report is accompanied by a list of the Society's Auxiliaries, 16 in number, with the officers of each, and the sum by each contributed. Mr. ISAAC WILLIAMS, Sec. Mr. SAMUEL COLTART, Agent.

### TRACT MEETING AT NEW-ORLEANS.

A public meeting was held in New-Orleans, Feb. 21, for the purpose of aiding the Board of Agency of the American Tract Society in that City. GEN. STEPHEN VAN RENSSLAER, of Albany, presided and headed the subscription at the close of the meeting with \$100. Whole amount subscribed \$681. The audience was large and respectable; say 1000 or 1200 persons present. Addresses were delivered by Rev. O. Eastman, Agent of the American Tract Society; L. C. Duncan, Esq. Gen. E. W. Ripley, and J. A. Maybin, Esq.

The Rev. Dr. Milnor, who sailed from New-York on the 16th of March, in the Liverpool packet, is commissioned as a Delegate to the London Anniversaries, by the American Tract Society, and also the American Bible Society, without charge to either Institution.



Eight subscriptions of \$100 each, in addition to \$200 already given, are requisite to complete the perpetuation of Bunyan's "Pilgrim's Progress."

The Religious Tract Society in London, in their Tract Magazine for February, notice the *Monthly Tract Distribution* in this country as a very important advance in the system of Tract operations, and kindred in character with the *Loan System*, which has been adopted in England.

### BAPTIST GENERAL TRACT SOCIETY.

The Sixth Annual Meeting was held at Philadelphia, January 6. Receipts, during the year, \$5,536 93, of which \$2,114 90 were donations. Printed during the year 446,750 Tracts, embracing 4,941,000 pages. Remittances have been received, during the year, from 163 Auxiliaries. The number of Tracts in the series is 98. The Report contains numerous gratifying evidences of the usefulness of Tracts; among others to whom they have been blessed, are two converts to Christianity in Burmah. The following resolution was adopted at the meeting, viz.

"Resolved, That while the Society solicits the general co-operation of the Baptist churches of our country, in its own labors, it regards with lively satisfaction the prosperity and extending usefulness of the American Tract Society."

### RECEIPTS

#### INTO THE TREASURY OF THE AMERICAN TRACT SOCIETY,

*During the month ending March 15, 1830.*

##### FROM AUXILIARY TRACT SOCIETIES.

	For Tr.	Don.
R. ISL.—Newport, R. S. Caboons, Sec. . . . .	40 00	
Providence, Israel H. Bay, Sec. . . . .	105 50	
CONN.—Bozrah, Eris Gifford, Sec. . . . .		1 00
Brooklyn, (Windham Co. Aux.) Edwin Newbury, Ag. . . . .	25 00	
Danbury, Horace Bull, Tr. . . . .	9 00	
Greenwich, (Stanwich Soc.) Wm. Smith, Tr. . . . .	2 40	60
Guilford, Henry E. Hodges, Ag. . . . .	7 06	
Hartford, Conn. Branch, C. Hosmer, Sec. . . . .	413 94	
New-Haven, Fem. Mrs. Henrietta F. Whitney, Tr. . . . .	30 00	10 00
Norwich, Fem. Miss Sarah Backus, Sec. . . . .	28 70	
Stafford, Fem. Mrs. Arua S. Smith, Sec. . . . .		2 00
Stratford, Ana Curtis, Tr. . . . .	13 94	6 76
Waterbury, Horace Hotchkiss, Tr. . . . .	1 74	
N. YORK.—Auburn, C. B. Hotchkiss, Ag. . . . .	27 65	
Do. by their Aux. at Aurora, . . . . .		1 04
Do. by their Fem. Aux. East Genoa, . . . . .		1 12
Brooklyn, L. I. Joseph Howard, Tr. . . . .	18 50	
Catskill, Wm. H. Coit, Tr. . . . .	75 00	
Chenango, Broome Co. Silas West, Tr. . . . .	17 00	
Elmira, (Tioga Co. Aux.) W. Jury Dist. Rev. G. Barton, Sec. . . . .	14 00	
Goshen, J. S. Crane, Tr. . . . .	2 28	
Hunter, Greene Co. E. J. Stimson, Sec. . . . .	10 60	
Jamaica, L. I. Marvin W. Fox, Sec. . . . .	3 26	1 08
New-York City Tract Society, Alfred Edwards, Tr. . . . .	1991 25	
St. Geo. Ch. Fem. Miss Ann Dominick, Tr. . . . .	7 00	
Phillipstown, Fem. Miss Ann E. Horton, Sec. . . . .	3 00	
Rhinebeck, Fem. C. Davidson, Sec. . . . .		20 00
Rochester, Monroe Co. Levi A. Ward, Tr. . . . .	76 00	
Smyrna, Fem. Mrs. Asenath Avery, Ag. . . . .		4 00

	For Tr.	Don.
Troy, Charles Lyman, Tr.	30 00	
Utica, Edward Vernon, Sec.	171 00	
N. JER.—Newark, Ellison Conger, Sec.	57 63	
Princeton, Fem. Miss F. W. Merford, Sec.	10 00	
Somerville, Fem. Mrs. Sophia Talmage, Tr.	8 00	6 00
Stillwater, Fem. Mrs. Sarah Wintermoot, Tr.	5 57	
PENN.—Blairville, (Aux. to Pittsburgh,)	24 21	
Bull Creek, do.		3 50
New-Bedford, do.	9 00	
Greenville, do.	1 00	
Pittsburgh, Rev. Robert Patterson, Ag.	346 34	
MD.—Baltimore Branch, C. A. Hall, Tr.	100 00	
VIR.—Winchester, Daniel Gold, Tr.	89 12	
do. by their Aux. Martinsburgh,		3 75
N. CAR.—Salisbury, Michael Brown, Tr.	61 00	
GEO.—Bryan Co. John B. Harden, Sec.		6 37
Darien, Bayard E. Hand, Esq. Ag.	78 35	25 90
Macon, James C. Patterson, Sec.	161 78	
Savannah, W. W. Baker, Esq. Tr.	80 00	
ALA.—Huntsville, Samuel Coltart, Ag.	35 00	
Tuscaloosa, J. B. Cook, Esq. Tr.	50 00	
TENN.—Knoxville, James Park, Tr.	110 00	
Nashville, Samuel B. Snowden, Tr.	95 00	
OHIO.—Cincinnati, Henry B. Funk, Tr.	230 00	
MO.—St. Louis, W. S. Olmsted, Tr.	60 00	
SOCIETIES NOT AUXILIARY.		
CONN.—Essex in Saybrook, Un. Tr. Soc. Joseph H. Hayden, Ag.	11 00	
N. JER.—Elizabethtown, Un. J. J. Bryant, Tr.	6 80	
Paterson, Ref. Dutch Ch. Ralph Doremus, Tr.	4 00	
PENN.—Honesdale, Temp. Soc. S. Torrey, Tr.	5 40	
Tracts sold at the Depository to individuals,	227 35	

*Directors for Life.*

N. YORK.—New-York City, John Murray Ogden, by Misses Mary and Hannah L. Murray, . . . \$50 00	Warren, Tertius Reynolds, by his father, (in part of \$20,) . . . 10 00
Rensselaer Co. Rev. John A. Murray, . . . 50 00	N. YORK.—Genoa, Rev. S. Smith, by Ladies of 1st Presb. Ch. . . 20 00
Rochester Monroe Co. Rev. Joseph Penney, by Ladies, (in full of \$50,) . . . 24 00	Owego, Tioga Co. Susan W. Pumphelly, by Mrs. M. H. W. Pumphelly, (in full of \$20,) . . . 13 00
N. JER.—Lebanon, Rev. Jacob J. Schultz, by Ladies of Lebanon and Whitehouse, (in part of \$50,) . . . 29 37	VIR.—Winchester, Mrs. Elizabeth Barnhart, by Mr. Geo. Barnhart, (in full of \$20,) . . . 5 60
VIR.—Winchester, Rev. David H. Riddle, by Ladies, . . . 50 00	ALA.—Weasley, Rev. Alexander A. Campbell, D. D. by Ladies of Florence, (in full of \$20,) . . . 10 00
S. CAR.—Charleston, Rev. W. A. McDowell, D. D. by Juv. As. in S. School, 3d Presb. Ch. in addit. to \$25, (in part of \$50,) . . . 20 00	TENN.—Readyville, Rutherford Co. Charles Ready, Esq. . . 20 00
Do. Rev. B. M. Palmer, D. D. by Ladies, . . . 50 00	
LOU.—New-Orleans, Rev. Theodore Clapp, by Ladies of Presb. Church, . . . 50 00	

*Members for Life.*

MASS.—Dedham, Mrs. Rebecca Fales, by Ladies of Rev. Mr. Burgess' Soc. . . . 20 00
R. ISL.—Bristol, Mrs. Maria Rogers, . . . 20 00
CONN.—Hartford, Mrs. Charles Bliss, (in full of \$20,) . . . 10 00

*Annual Directors.*

N. YORK.—New-York City, Thomas M. McClean,	5 00
Do. Dr. J. R. B. Rodgers,	5 00
The following for 1829 and 1830.	
Joseph Foulke,	10 00
Henry James,	10 00
J. McGregor,	10 00
Martin E. Thompson,	10 00

*Annual Members.*

N. YORK.—New-York City: The following \$2 each.—Geo. Betts, Mrs. Ann Bostwick, Archibald C. Brady, Wm. Braun, John Brammer, E. A. Brinkerhoof, Mrs. Elizabeth F. Clibben, Thomas Cooper,
--

R. Davenport, Dr. J. W. Duryee,  
Francis Gross, Wm. W. Jack-  
son, Tarbel Jessup, James Keelo,  
Anthony Lamb, Peter Morris,  
John Platt, Stephen A. Rich. E.  
Smith, James M. Tuthill, Miss E.  
Van Nostrand, . . . 43 00  
The following for 1829 and 1830.  
\$4 each.—Thomas Addison, Hugh  
Aikman, David Andrews, Ga-  
briel A. Arnoux, Rev. Wm. C.  
Brownlee, D. D. Dr. Thomas  
Cock, Mrs. Eliza Evertson, Na-  
thaniel Gardiner, David Gra-  
ham, Esq. Stephen Holt, Jun. Si-  
meon Hyde, Matthew Keeler, S.  
W. Lowerre, Peter Ludlow, Esq.  
Peter M'Cartee, Alex. M'Clure,  
Rev. Benj. Mortimer, John Mor-  
timer, Jun. John Perrot, Rev. A.  
Peters, John Phylfe, Samuel Pier-  
son, John Redfield, H. H. Schief-  
felin, . . . 96 00

### Other Donations.

N. HAMP.—Jaffrey, Congrega-  
tional Society, . . . 4 94  
CONN.—Coventry, J. H. . . 1 00  
N. YORK.—New-York City, Ano-  
nymous, \$10—B. C. D. \$5 18—A  
Friend, \$1—Fem. Friend, \$5—A  
Merchant \$3—A Young Man, \$5  
A. Tappan, \$3 37, . . . 32 55  
Smyrna, Charles E. Avery, . . 1 00  
Southport, Wm. Wells, . . . 1 00  
PENN.—Purxatowney, Dr. J. W.  
Jenks, . . . 3 50  
VIR.—Martinsburgh, Geo. Tabb, . 1 25  
S. CAR.—Charleston, Mrs. Brough-  
ton, . . . 10 00  
TENN.—Carter Co. Gen. Carter, . 1 00

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Whole amount of Donations, \$795 00  
Received for Tracts sold, 4,969 39

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Total, \$5,764 39

### RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

No. 234.—THE ADVANTAGES OF PRAYER. pp. 12. This Tract is from the pen of the Rev. *Thomas H. Skinner, D. D.*, of Philadelphia: showing that Prayer is calculated to improve all the powers of the human soul; to counteract whatever tends to its injury; to give efficacy to the Word of God, read or heard; to make providential dispensations a blessing; and that it has an influence upon God himself.

#### Occasional Tracts.

Occasional 7.—THE CITY OF REFUGE: a Dialogue between a learn-  
*ed Rabbi and a sick Penitent.* pp. 20. In which the sick youth be-  
wails his violations of the law of God, and his desert of punishment;  
and finding in himself no hope of deliverance, is led to feel the need  
of pardon through a Redeemer, the coming of whom is foretold in the  
Hebrew Scriptures in such a manner as very definitely to describe  
the Lord Jesus Christ. Adapted for circulation among Jews.

Occasional 8.—SCRIPTURE COMPARED WITH SCRIPTURE. pp. 12.  
Showing the correspondence between the most important truths in the  
Hebrew Scriptures, especially the predictions of a Messiah, and the  
truths of the New Testament, with the fulfilment of predictions therein  
recorded. Adapted for circulation among Jews.

Occasional 9.—CERIL'S FRIENDLY ADVICE TO THE SERVANTS OF  
HIS PARISH. pp. 8. A brief directory founded on the plain instruc-  
tions of the New Testament.

#### French Series.

No.	Pages.	No.	Pages.
17. Great Effects from Little Causes, . . . . .	12	22. History of Amelia Gale, . . .	8
18. Common Errors, . . . . .	12	23. Traveller's Farewell, . . . . .	4
19. The Two Old Men, . . . . .	16	24. Great Question Answered, . . .	20
20. Village in the Mountains, . . .	24	25. Exhortation against the fear of Death, . . . . .	16
21. Do you want a Friend? . . . .	4		

# THE AMERICAN Tract Magazine.

VOL. V.]

MAY, 1830.

[NO. 5.



See "History of Thomas Mann," Tract No. 235, page 14.

## TRACT CAUSE IN CEYLON, INDIA.

It has often been to us a painful reflection, that the American Tract Society has been able to do no more for the circulation of Tracts among the Heathen. The following extracts of a communication from the American missionaries in the Island of Ceylon show that Tract operations are as important in connexion with missionary efforts in Pagan lands, as perhaps in any other circumstances whatever.

The efforts and success of the American Tract Society, says one of the Missionaries, have given to all the members of our mission much pleasure, and much occasion for gratitude; and I may add also of *hope*, as it regards some assistance for the people around us. We are in *great want of aid in publishing Tracts* for the Heathen, for Roman Catholics, for Mahometans, and for some nominally Protestant Christians. You will have learned, from our last communication, that we

have published several Tracts for the Heathen, mostly original, as translations seem less adapted to the state of the people here, and our limited means have made it important for us to publish such as seemed most likely to do good, though at more expense of labor in the preparation. Our Tracts, though few, have cost us a good deal of time, being prepared with much care, and on that account, we think, better worth the expense of printing. We know of some instances in which they have been made useful.

Intercourse with the people around affords abundant proof that light is spreading, and that Heathenism is in proportion losing its hold on the mind. We have reason to believe that many are convinced of the folly of their superstitions, though from custom, regard to family connexions, fear of persecution, &c. they still continue to practise them; and that a favorable impression of the excellence of the Christian religion is widening and deepening. It is asserted, by many credible persons, that the contributions made to the temples, and to Bramins, have been for some time on the decrease; and we trust the way is preparing for the more or less general downfall of the strong holds of Satan. The favorable change which we trust is gradually taking place in the views of the people, must be ascribed, in a good degree, to the distribution of Tracts. Circumstances have come to our knowledge where a single Tract has excited so much interest in a village, as to be lent from house to house; and it has often proved exceedingly gratifying, after distributions made at the Heathen processions, to witness little groups, seated here and there on the ground, after their custom, attentively listening to the reading of a Religious Tract. We cannot but cherish the hope, that however the Heathens are fortified to resist Christianity, while such measures are employed, the Spirit of God may open the mind to conviction, and bring home divine truth with power in the heart.

Formerly it was with reluctance that Tracts were received by a few, while great numbers absolutely refused to take them. Now, it is often cheering to observe, that they are eagerly sought for and attentively read. But the interest thus excited must be kept up. The Tracts already distributed must be followed by others, or the good impressions made will, it is feared, be soon erased, and the advantage lost. The Tracts hitherto published have done little more than prepare the way for further efforts. A much greater variety is needed, adapted to the different classes of which the population is composed, whether Heathens, Mahometans, Catholics, or Protestants: each class requires a distinct series of Tracts, suited to their peculiar views, practices and prejudices.

The increase of the reading population in consequence of the mission schools, in which between 4000 and 5000 children are taught, among whom are nearly 1000 girls, calls for prompt and strenuous exertions, that the youthful mind, prepared to derive incalculable advantages from the privileges enjoyed, be not supplied with poison instead of food; and thus the objects of instruction be defeated. The rising generation requires a distinct series of Tracts, with which they must be supplied, or it may well be feared that the hopes of the benevolent in other lands, whose energies and whose prayers have been excited for the promotion of their best interests, will be disappointed,

and that these youths will become established in Heathenism, and more determined enemies to Christianity than those unacquainted with it. We have had too much cause to lament that instances are not wanting to confirm these remarks, and to convince us of the great necessity of supplying the rising generation, as they have the benefit of the schools, with such books and Tracts as may store the mind with real knowledge, and prove a safeguard against the baneful contamination of Heathenism.

Appended to this communication is a statement of extensive Tract distributions, made by members of the Mission, in towns in different directions; the readiness with which Tracts were received and read; and an appeal to the Committee for all the aid which the Society's means will enable them to afford.

English translations of two Tamul Tracts; viz. "A Friendly Epistle to Roman Catholic Priests," and an "Account of the Sufferings of Polycarp," have also been received, that, being approved by the Publishing Committee, donations from the Society may be appropriated to their circulation.

### BRITISH CORRESPONDENCE.

*From the Religious Tract Society of London, dated February 18, 1830.*

The Committee of this Institution feel much satisfaction in noticing, from time to time, the growing prosperity and increasing efficiency of the American Religious Tract Society. We congratulate you on the very many proofs that the Divine blessing attends your labors in an eminent degree, and we pray that, under the influence of the Holy Spirit, your past prosperity may be increased an hundred fold.

We have abundant cause for gratitude in knowing that our humble labors have not been altogether in vain. Our circulation continues to increase, and we are frequently favored with good tidings from distant lands, as well as being assured that the home operations of the Society are greatly blessed. *The circulation of our publications on loan is becoming general throughout the kingdom, and is frequently attended by the happiest results.*

The Committee of this Society, anxious to perpetuate the friendly intercourse which so happily subsists between the two Societies, and which is so agreeable to us, have directed a supply of all our publications since we last had occasion to furnish you with a complete set, to be forwarded to you, down to the close of the past year; they are shipped on board the *Orbit*, Capt. Fish, and it will afford us pleasure to know that they have reached you in safety.

*From the Liverpool Religious Tract Society, under date of Oct. 15, 1829.*

MY DEAR SIR—By this opportunity I forward to your address 6 copies of our Fifteenth Annual Report, presented September 1, by which you will perceive that we are not insensible to the feelings that actuate your devoted and successful Committee, both in respect to the

unevangelized part of your own community, and to those who, like ourselves, are laboring, though in comparative obscurity, in the same cause, and in the service of the same Master.

I expect *great results from your plan of distributing Tracts monthly* through the city, one to every family. I hope, ere long, to see the same plan in active operation here. With a population not very materially less than yours, and with probably quite as large a proportion given up to habits, the natural accompaniment of gross ignorance of Him "whom to know aright is life eternal," we have the same call for exertion, and shall be inexcusable if we do not effectually answer it.

Your plan is well explained in your Cards, and it is a very simple, feasible, and effectual one.

#### *Abstract of the Report.*

Receipts, during the year, including balance due the Treasurer, \$1,340. Distributed, during the year, 235,645 Tracts, making a total of 4,193,020 Tracts distributed since the formation of the Society. Number of new Tracts published during the year 19. The distribution, to different humane and charitable Institutions, market people, persons going to and returning from races, loiterers at the pier heads, the shipping generally, &c. &c. has been actively maintained during the year; and numerous very gratifying instances are given of good effected. The report refers to the friendly relations sustained with the Glasgow, London, and American Tract Societies; and urges all the followers of Christ to greater personal activity in Tract distribution.

"Christians," says the report, "your duty is to begin this day; to begin with earnest prayer for the Divine direction and blessing; to begin your operations of Christian philanthropy with enlarged views; to begin at home, in your family, amongst your neighbors, amidst the daily avocations of business; to make it a leading object in journeying from home, for business or for pleasure; to occupy yourselves therein in your leisure hours; and in proportion to your ability, to let every individual under the sun, to whom you can gain access, hear and read the message of salvation, which holy men, acting in the fear of God, and with a view to his glory, have thus prepared and put into your hands."

*From one of the Secretaries of the Dublin City Mission, dated October 7, 1829.*

As one of the Secretaries of the Dublin City Mission, instituted June 18, 1828, an opportunity has been afforded me of serving our Divine Master. We had many difficulties to contend with, but a plain path has been made for our feet, and we, at the end of sixteen months, can, and do say, with adoring gratitude, "What hath God wrought!" O, Sir, we cannot expect too much from God. We receive little, because we ask little. The Lord has so prospered the City Mission, that we have lately formed a Society for the purpose of promoting the same system throughout the Island, in all its cities, towns, and villages, believing that there is nothing more likely, under God, to raise Ireland than the system of *taking the Gospel to the people in their own houses*. As one of the Secretaries of the Local Missionary Society for Ireland,

I purpose visiting the principal cities, towns, and villages in the Island, for the purpose of suggesting to the Lord's people the propriety of seeking the good of their neighbors, and of rendering them any assistance in my power in organizing local missions.

In reference to America, I have had much the same feeling as to Ireland, to wit, that the Lord has blessings in store for it infinitely beyond what it enjoys at present. Great things are going forward in America, which furnishes ground of praise and thanksgiving.

The first report of this Society is also received, from which it appears, that 13 Agents, or Missionaries, have been employed (besides 40 others who devote part of their leisure) in personally communicating spiritual instruction to the poor, and in the distribution of the Scriptures, Tracts, and other books. The Appendix to the report contains very numerous interesting facts, showing that great ignorance, wickedness, and prejudice prevails, and that many have been spiritually benefitted by the labors of the Society.

### MORAL DESOLATIONS.

We frequently refrain from publishing facts, communicated from the most authentic sources, showing the moral desolations existing in many parts of our beloved country, lest we should thereby wound the feelings of some; and yet we are constrained to feel that such facts ought to be known to all who love the Lord Jesus Christ. How shall we justly appreciate the obligations devolving upon us, unless we know the wants of our fellow-men? The following facts are communicated by men worthy of the most entire confidence, from parts of the country where they have, for some time, been laboring, or from places where they permanently reside.

*From an Intelligent Gentleman in one of the Counties of the U. States.*

This is a very rich, fertile, populous, and I may add irreligious county. The deadly sin of Intemperance is horribly prevalent, even among many who profess to be followers of the meek and lowly Jesus. The destitution of the faithful preaching of the Gospel and of the Bible is almost equally great. At the same time you can scarcely imagine the ignorance which generally prevails respecting the nature and design of all our principal Benevolent Institutions. They are looked upon as great, speculating, money-making establishments; and the very name of an "American Society" is often enough to awaken the bitterest opposition.

I am daily more and more convinced of the importance of placing Tracts in every family. They would, in my opinion, be incomparably better than all the means of grace now enjoyed by this people. Had I a hundred lives to live, I feel that I could spend them all profitably in laboring for the cause of religion within 50 miles of the place where I am now writing.



*From a Gentleman in another and very distant part of the Country.*

In some portions of the interior where I have travelled extensively, the use of *whiskey and other ardent spirits* prevails to a most alarming extent. I have called on multitudes of families who were miserably poor, and talked with them freely on this most destructive cause of their ruin. Sometimes I charge home upon them the crime of using whiskey, and feeding their families with whiskey, instead of providing them with schools and the means of instruction. I think that in a place where I recently formed a Society, there was not an eye but was rolling in the gushing tears, when I told them how they had robbed their children of what would be demanded of them in the day of judgment. The man who piloted me to the road after the meeting said: To tell the truth, I have just taken my barrel to the distillery to have it filled with whiskey; but I will go directly there and countermand my orders.

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*From a Gentleman at the West, detained from labors for the American Tract Society by declining health.*

So far as I know my own feelings, my heart is with the Tract Society; and I more desire the restoration of health, that, by promoting its interests, I may be able to do something for the advancement of the cause of Christ, than from any other motive. I have seen enough of the West to know that, in a spiritual sense, large portions of it are growing up with briars and thorns: I have travelled a good deal, and been extensively acquainted, and speak from personal observation. And what shall be done? Shall the tide of moral desolation be permitted to roll on till thousands after thousands are hurried by its turbid and desolating stream into the gulf of perdition? Can nothing be done to stay its baneful progress? Yes, much, *very much* can be done. Beside all that can be done to promote the preaching of the Gospel, let Sabbath schools, with well selected libraries, be established in every neighborhood; let the word of God be placed in every family; and Tracts in the hands of every individual who can read them, and who can calculate the blessed results? We must go to the judgment seat of Christ, and into the eternal world, before we can make the calculation. And why is this not done? Let Christians feel as they *will feel* on the bed of death, and at the judgment seat of Christ, and place that estimate on earthly good and earthly treasures, which they *then* will do, and let them know the value of the immortal soul as they *then* will know it, and the work would be done. The truth is, Christians are pleading excuses for not engaging more earnestly in the cause of Christ, and for not giving more for the spread of the Gospel, which they will not dare to plead at the bar of God.

And now, dear Brother, let me ask an interest in your prayers, that God would make plain before me the path of duty, and if he has any thing more for me to do in this pilgrimage, that he would give me strength and grace to perform it; or if I am soon to go down to the grave, that I may be prepared to glorify him in death.

## MONTHLY TRACT DISTRIBUTION.

*Albany, New-York.*

We have received, and read with deep interest, the Report of the success of this system of effort in Albany for the months of October, November, December, and January. The Distributors, except in the parts of the city near the river, are chiefly Female members of the respective churches. Number of Distributors in the 5 Wards of the City, 139; No. of Tracts distributed, 9889; No. of families refusing Tracts, 105; whole number of families reported, 2811. "In general," says the Committee, "among every class of our citizens, the reception of the Distributors has been kind, and in many cases they are welcomed as the messengers of glad tidings by parents and children. Many of the Distributors also are thankful to the Lord that He ever induced them to enter this field of labor. They have found it refreshing to their own souls.

"The work has led to a more extensive conversation with individuals on the subject of religion than any thing which has ever occurred here. It has resulted, the Committee are induced to believe, in a more general reading of the Scriptures; has brought many families to church, and a great number of children to the Sabbath schools; and the temporal well-being of some poor families has been manifestly promoted."

To the question that the effort involves a *waste of money*, it is replied, that the same objection may be urged against the universal and stated preaching of the Gospel. But if any part of the population must be abandoned in this distribution who will dare assume the responsibility of deciding what part? Perhaps some might advise to omit *wealthy Christian families*. "In one such family, where a Tract was left, there were perhaps a hundred Tracts in the house, but the fact that this was left in the monthly distribution *induced the eldest daughter to read it*. Her mind had before been seriously impressed with Divine truth; but she says this Tract very much deepened those impressions—she is now exercising faith and hope in Christ. Is it not better to present a Tract even where the prospect of usefulness is small, than to pass by the door where one might be the messenger of eternal life? Is it not the command of Christ to preach the Gospel 'to every creature?' Is not the redemption of every immortal soul precious?"

"We trust in God, in whose cause we labor, that when more time shall have elapsed for developing the results of this operation, they will be seen abundantly to compensate for all the labor, self-denial and expense incurred, and to justify more than all the interest which has been felt in it."

*Utica, New-York.*

The last monthly Report of the distribution is full of encouragement, detailing very numerous conversations and incidents, which cannot fail to affect the heart of every reader who loves the souls of men. The report from one district says, "Evident traces of the footsteps of the mighty One of Israel are here to be seen. Hard hearts have become softened. A general seriousness pervades the District."

"What shall I do?" cried one with reference to the Tract *Serious Thoughts on Eternity*; "I am not prepared to die." "I found in my district," says one Distributor, "considerable feeling on the subject of religion—some rejoicing in the hope of salvation. One individual supposing the Tract left last month would be required, had committed it to memory."

"In Ward No. 3, each report has come in, fraught with the love of souls, bearing the precious news that awakened sinners are inquiring the way to Zion. 'My visits,' says one, 'have been made, not only with increasing delight, but with a solemn conviction that this is work over which ministering spirits watch with intense interest. In some instances the Holy Spirit condescends to bless these efforts to the conviction of sin. The hearts of the widow and the orphan have been gladdened, and we believe the blessings of many ready to perish, both in soul and body, will come on those engaged in this work. Another says, 'Never have I witnessed such solemnity on the minds of the people. Never was my soul more cheered with the presence of my Savior than in this month's distribution.'

"O!" exclaimed a prostrated being in Ward No. 5, who had sent for me in the dead of night, when supposed to be in the agonies of death, 'I thought I should never see you again in this world. I felt unprepared to die; and I remembered the Tract which I refused to receive from the hands of the Distributor!'"

#### *Reports from various places.*

*Natchez, Miss.*—"The system of monthly distribution has been sustained here, and is adopted in Washington, in this state. We are now distributing the prize Tracts on the Divine Origin of the Bible."

*Brooklyn, Con.*—Another Auxiliary has just adopted the monthly distribution, making, in all, 1778 families in this county to whom this system of effort is now extended.

*Coxsackie, N. Y.*—200 copies of 5 Tracts ordered.

*Elmira, N. Y.*—Our monthly distribution goes on well. The Distributors, I think, are becoming more interested every month. We distributed 140 Tracts—not one was refused.

*Stilwater, N. J.*—"We commenced the monthly distribution in August, and have distributed 11,700 pages of Tracts. The plan has been found to be entirely practicable. The distributors have increased in energy and zeal in the good cause. Number of families regularly supplied, 230."

*Troy, N. Y.*—"Our monthly distribution goes on finely. The Distributors are in good spirits, and persevere in the work as if they loved to labor for Christ and the souls of men. Two very interesting cases of conversion were reported at the last meeting of Distributors—and this is sufficient to encourage any Christian heart." "Please send 1800 copies of the *Watchmaker*, for the next month's distribution."

*Huntsville, Ala.*—"We are now distributing Tracts monthly. Whole number of families 222, in 9 of which the Tract was refused."

*Paris, Ken.*—The distribution has been for 3 months successfully prosecuted by the Female Tract Society; and Tracts are ordered for 12 months ensuing.

*Buffalo, N. Y.*—"For the last 6 months the Ladies' Auxiliary have.

been prosecuting the monthly distribution. So far as we have been able to carry it into effect, it has succeeded well. It brings some to church that did not go; augments Sabbath Schools; and promotes the Temperance cause."

*Augusta, Geo.*—Nine hundred copies of three Tracts are ordered for monthly distribution.

### USEFULNESS OF TRACTS.

*Condensed from the Report of the Female Aux. of Norwich, Con.*

One poor aged skeptic was greatly alarmed by hearing the *Last Hours of Francis Newport* read to him.—An aged female, now deceased, repeatedly expressed great gratitude for the spiritual aid she had derived from Tracts.—A poor woman, who, in the midst of great trials, received the Tract, *To the Afflicted*, called, some weeks afterward, on the Distributor, and thanked her, with flowing tears, for that "*precious Tract*," which she had read again and again.—A young man who had been previously awakened, received the Tract, *Pause and think, Am I a Christian?* and was enabled afterward to say, "*I did pause—I did think—and from the bottom of my heart offered up the prayer, 'God be merciful to me a sinner.'* Now I trust I have learned something of 'the height, and depth, and length, and breadth, of the love of Christ'."

One member of the Society says she loved all the Benevolent Societies, but especially the Tract Society, from which she had derived much *personal benefit*; but she was destitute of employment, and had nothing to give but her feeble prayers. These she directed to her Heavenly Father, who sent her employment for her needle, from the proceeds of which she, besides giving something as a donation, procured a supply of Tracts for gratuitous distribution; took them to her closet, spread them out before her heavenly Father, and begged his special blessing on each one of them. "I suppose," she adds, "no individual destitute of religion, however rich or great, ever enjoyed what I did at that sweet moment. Some of the Tracts thus procured and circulated I have every assurance have been blessed to the souls of those who received them."

About 300 families are supplied in the *monthly distribution*; two have declined receiving Tracts. The Distributors are impressed with the importance of this work to themselves and others. *The proud skeptic may smile at the powerlessness of the efforts of a humble female Tract Distributor; but the widow and the fatherless, and the sons and daughters of poverty and affliction, and the Father of her spirit too, will bless her!* Depending on Him, she is made strong in his strength, and mighty in his might, to the accomplishment of his own gracious purposes.—One poor old man, whose earthly hopes had been all blighted by the lapse of time, on receiving the Tract, *Do you want a Friend?* and looking at it, burst into tears and said, "This is just such a Friend as I need."—A man, who was doing all in his power to undermine Christianity, received the Tract on the *Institution and Observance of the Sabbath*, and the next Lord's day was seen, with his family, in the sanctuary, from which, for years, they had absented

themselves. Several persons in obscure situations, who were ready, in despondency, to adopt the language, "No man careth for my soul," have been led, by the Distributors, to the enjoyment of the means of Gospel grace, and are now rejoicing in hope. A number of children have been brought from abodes of wretchedness and immorality, under the instruction of the Sabbath School. "Three rejecters of Divine revelation have been brought as humble suppliants at the foot of the cross, through the instrumentality (as is believed) of these silent preachers; and several who have obtained hope in Christ during the recent outpouring of the Holy Spirit, impute the change to the Divine blessing on the perusal of the Tract *Do you want a Friend?* circulated in the month of October."

### ANNIVERSARIES OF AUXILIARIES.

*Auxiliary of Mobile, Alabama.*—The first annual meeting was held in the Government-street Church. After prayer and the introductory remarks of the President, H. Hitchcock, Esq. the Annual Report was read by Rev. J. B. Warren, the Corresponding Secretary, and Addresses were delivered by Rev. Mr. Eastman, Agent of the American Tract Society; Rev. Mr. Walker, Rev. Mr. Shaw, and H. Hitchcock, Esq. A contribution of upwards of \$60 was taken up. Mr. Alanson Knapp is appointed Agent of the Depository, in place of Mr. Erwin, resigned.

*Auxiliary of Middlebury, Ver.*—Third annual meeting March 9, when Addresses were delivered, and it was resolved to adopt the System of Monthly Distribution. Receipts during the year \$31 50.

### TRACT MEETING IN PHILADELPHIA.

A public meeting was held in Philadelphia, March 22, with special reference to obtaining funds to sustain the Monthly Distribution in that City. Joseph Montgomery, Esq. presided, and after prayer by Rev. B. B. Smith, resolutions were offered, accompanied by Addresses from Rev. Joel T. Benedict, Corresponding Secretary of the Pennsylvania Branch Tract Society; Rev. Noah Davis, Agent of the Baptist General Tract Society; Rev. S. H. Tyng, and Rev. Thomas M'Auley, D. D. a member of the Publishing Committee of the American Tract Society. Of the address of the last speaker, the Philadelphia Recorder says, "The facts he developed, and the passing, but delicate touches of simple eloquence with which they were interspersed, held the attention of a large congregation perfectly enchained." A subscription was taken up amounting to about \$500.

*Pilgrim's Progress.*—A Clergyman of Massachusetts, and a Layman of Providence, R. I. have each agreed to pay \$100, in part for perpetuating this work; making \$400 now subscribed. The condition of the original subscription was that the whole sum of \$1000 be pledged on or before the Society's anniversary, May 12.

A premium of \$50 to be awarded by Rev. W. C. Brownlee, D. D. Rev. William Berrian, and Rev. W. D. Snodgrass, is offered for the best Tract on the "*Duties of Domestic Servants*," which shall be presented before the 20th of July next. The manuscripts to be committed to Mr. Moses Allen, or Mr. Jonathan D. Steele, of New-York.

## RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

**No. 235. THE HONEST WATERMAN, OR HISTORY OF THOMAS MANN, DISTINGUISHED FOR HIS RELIGIOUS CHARITIES.**—pp. 20. The subject of this history was an obscure Waterman of London, who pursued his business through a long life, with no special pecuniary advantages; and who yet, through the results of his unceasing labors and great economy, after having been very charitable in a most unassuming manner during his life, gave, at his death, by legacy, one hundred pounds sterling (444 dollars) to each of ten benevolent Institutions in London, and fifty pounds sterling to each of five other kindred Institutions. Few individuals have so happily exemplified the Christian character. A vein of piety runs through the Tract, which is full of instruction for persons in every department of life.

**No. 236. MEMOIR OF LYDIA W.**—pp. 4. A brief and well-written Memoir of a pious female who, in the midst of affliction, was, to advanced years, a pattern of Christian humility, submission and confidence in God. Extracted from the London Christian Observer.

## RECEIPTS

### INTO THE TREASURY OF THE AMERICAN TRACT SOCIETY,

*During the month ending April 15, 1830.*

#### FROM AUXILIARY TRACT SOCIETIES.

	For Tr.	Don.
VER.—Brookfield, John Smith, Sec.		3 00
Marlborough, Fem. Huldah C. Newton, Ag.		1 00
Pittsford, Abel Penfield, Tr.		5 00
MASS.—Boston, American Tract Society, J. Tappan, Tr.	3006 00	
Pittsfield, Fem. Mrs. H. P. Tappan, Pres.		12 00
Springfield, Solomon Warriner, Jun. Tr.	20 00	
Stockbridge, Moses Fairchild, Tr.	5 78	
Westfield, Fem. Mrs. Sally G. Post, Sec.	11 00	
E. ISL.—East Greenwich, Rev. Michael Burdett, Ag.	2 00	
CONN.—Brooklyn, (Windham Co. Aux.) Edwin Newbury, Ag.	15 00	
Chesterfield, Montville, P. O. William Thatcher, Sec.	3 00	
Colebrook, Seth Marshall, Sec.	7 00	5 25
Killingworth, John S. Hull, Sec.	3 75	1 25
New-Haven, Samuel P. Davis, Ag.	1 80	
New-London, Robert Colt, Tr.	7 61	8 15
New-Milford, Ezra Noble, Tr.	2 50	
Sharon, Charles F. Sedgwick, Sec.	4 58	
Westbrook, Fem. Mrs. Lucy Selden, Sec.	3 63	3 62
N. YORK.—Albany, Central Branch, D. M'Kercher, Sec.	100 00	
Bedford, Fem. Mrs. Susan S. Nichols, Sec.	5 68	
Bridgehampton, Rev. Amzi Francis, Sec.	2 50	
Brooklyn, L. I. Joseph Howard, Tr.	66 60	
Buffalo, Fem. Miss Harriet W. Russel, Sec.	50 00	
Cairo, Greene Co. D. Johnson, Tr.	8 82	2 93
Coxsackie, A. Van Dyck, Esq. Ag.	12 30	
Goshen, John S. Crane, Tr.	96	
Hampstead, Rev. Charles Webster, Tr.	5 38	
Jamaica, Marvin W. Fox, Sec.	3 20	
Monticello, Sullivan Co. Rev. William M'Jimsey, Ag.	5 25	1 75
New-York City Aux. Alfred Edwards, Tr.	100 00	
Do. by Fem. Aux. Mrs. J. R. Hurd, Tr.	201 28	
Do. Seventh Presb. Church, J. Alexander, Sec.	4 00	
Do. St. George's Ch. Fem. Miss Ann Dominick, Tr.	10 00	
Owego, (Tioga Co. Aux.) E. Jury Dist. Col. C. B. Finley, Tr.	12 00	
Poughkeepsie, Fem. Mrs. Tabitha Tice, Tr.	8 50	
Sag Harbor, Samuel Phillips, Tr.	17 00	
Springfield, Otsego Co. Rev. Mr. How, Pres.	12 63	3 20
Troy, Charles Lyman, Tr.	50 00	
Utica, Edward Vernon, Sec.	102 00	
West Farms, Juv. John Butler, Sec.	1 55	51
N. JER.—Bloomfield, Juv. John H. Morrison, Sec.	7 09	
Littleton, Silas B. Condict, Tr.	1 74	
Mansfield, Fem. Hetty H. Sherrard, Tr.	19 50	6 50
Monroe, near Morristown, Edwin Ford, Tr.	2 00	2 00

	For Tr.	Don.
New-Brunswick, Peter Dayton, Tr.	18	
Pennington, Fem. Mrs. Eliza A. Rue, Sec.	4 00	
Springfield, Abijah L. Dunnell, Tr.	6 00	
PENN.—Dundaff, Susqn. Co. Dr. William Tarbell, Sec.	1 00	
Philadelphia Branch, Rev. Joel T. Benedict, Gen. Ag.	3 60	
Pittsburgh, Rev. Robert Patterson, Ag.	46 62	
MD.—Baltimore Branch, Charles R. Coleman, Sec.	30 00	
Buckingham Academy, Worcester Co. Juv. Wm. H. Riley, Sec.	3 00	1 00
DIS. COL.—Alexandria, Fem. Mrs. E. S. Ladd, Sec.	12 50	27 50
VIR.—Fredericksburg, John P. Little, Sec.	31 37	
Petersburg, Thomas H. Boswell, Sec.	13 39	
Richmond, Wm. F. Micou, Tr.	1 57	
Sturgeonville, Fem. Rev. Francis Bartlett, Ag.	10 00	
N. CAR.—Milton, M. P. Huntington, Sec.	29 00	
Washington, Richard H. Mastin, Sec.	5 00	
S. CAR.—Charleston, S. Car. Branch, Rev. John Dickson, Ag.	50 00	
MISS.—Natchez, Thomas Henderson, Tr.	100 00	
LOU.—New-Orleans Board of Agency, J. A. Maybin, Esq. Sec.	100 00	
TENN.—Nashville, Samuel B. Snowden, Tr.	150 00	
OHIO.—Chillicothe, Rev. J. P. Bauzman, Tr.	87 40	
Cincinnati, Henry B. Funk, Tr.	202 50	
Salem, Ashtabula Co. Dep. Rev. Luther Humphrey, Ag.	30 00	
IND.—Indianapolis, Dr. Isaac Coe, Pres.	6 25	
Madison, Rev. J. H. Johnston, Sec.	44 66	
MO.—St. Louis, W. S. Olmsted, Tr.	3 00	
<b>SOCIETIES NOT AUXILIARY.</b>		
N. YORK.—Orange Co. Sabbath Union, Robert Dennison, Sec.	31 70	
N. JER.—Elizabethtown Un. J. J. Bryant, Tr.	2 96	
PENN.—Damascus, Wayne Co. Loran Parsons, Pres.	9 50	
Tracts sold at the Depository to individuals,	222 15	

*Directors for Life.*

MASS.—South Boston, Rev. Joy H. Fairchild, by Ladies, (in full of \$50.)	18 00	CONN.—Greenwich, Rev. Isaac Lewis, D.D.	30 00
N. YORK.—New-York City, William Couch,	200 00	Milford Scholars,	1 12
Col. Richard Varick,	100 00	Preston, a Friend,	25 00
N. JER.—Morristown, Rev. Albert Barnes, by Ladies, (in full of \$50.)	30 00	N. YORK.—An Agent for Societies for promotion of the Gospel, balance of his compensation,	11 00
		Chenango Forks, a Lady,	1 00
		New York City, Almerin Loomis,	30
		"Legh Richmond," in addition to \$50, and in part for perpetuating the "Young Cottager,"	50 00

*Members for Life.*

CONN.—Middletown, Mrs. Henry S. Ward,	25 00	N. JER.—Littleton, Silas B. Condict,	1 00
New London, Robert Coit,	20 00	PENN.—Shippensburg, Rev. H. E. Wilson,	5 00
N. YORK.—New-York City, Mrs. Ann Mathews, by few Ladies of South Dutch Church,	20 00	N. CAR.—Granville Co. Young's Store, Ladies Working Company,	1 00
Benjamin Tytler,	20 00	S. CAR.—New Columbia, C. D. Mallary,	1 37
Walton, Del. Co. Miss Mary Bassett,	20 00	GEO.—Harris Co. Mr. Wilborn Hamilton,	1 00
GEO.—Macon, James C. Patterson,	20 00	KENN.—Miss Eliza Puckett,	50
St. Mary's, Rev. Horace S. Pratt, by Ladies,	20 00	IND.—Danlapsville, Jas. Michals,	1 00
		ENGLAND.—Liverpool, Mr. Lindon,	4 75

*Annual Members.*

N. YORK.—New-York City, Mrs. D. A. Frost,	2 00
Mrs. Mary Wilkes, for 1829 & 1830,	4 00

*Other Donations.*

"A Father," thank offering on the birth-day of a Son,	5 00
N. HAMP.—Hopkinton, Miss Sarah Greeley, (deceased) a Legacy,	50 00

The above list contains donation—  
In part for perpetuating the "Young Cottager," \$50 00

Whole amount of Donations	\$763 80
Received for Tracts sold,	4,134 64
<b>Total,</b>	<b>\$4,898 44</b>

# THE AMERICAN Tract Magazine.

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VOL. V.]

JUNE, 1830.

[NO. 6.

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## FIFTH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE **AMERICAN TRACT SOCIETY.**

The Fifth Annual Meeting of the American Tract Society was held in the Middle Dutch Church, New-York, on Wednesday, May 12th, at ten o'clock, A. M. The President of the Society,

S. V. S. WILDER, Esq.

took the chair, supported by Col. Richard Varick and Hon. Stephen Van Rensselaer.

The meeting was opened with prayer by Rev. Leonard Woods, D. D. Professor in the Theological Seminary, Andover, Massachusetts.

The President delivered an appropriate introductory Address.

The Treasurer, Mr. MOSES ALLEN, then read the Report of the Committee who audited his accounts; and the Annual Report was read by Mr. WILLIAM A. HALLOCK, the Corresponding Secretary.

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[WHOLE No. 54.]



The following resolutions were then presented and unanimously adopted: viz.

On motion of Rev. William M. Stilwell, of the Methodist Church, New-York; seconded by Rev. Moses Hallock, of the Evangelical Congregational Church, Plainfield, Massachusetts,

**RESOLVED,**

That the Reports now read be adopted, and published under the direction of the Executive Committee.

On motion of the Rev. John Todd, of the Evangelical Congregational Church, Groton, Massachusetts; seconded by Rev. John Reynolds, of the Protestant Episcopal Church, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania,

**RESOLVED,**

That we render praise and thanksgiving to God for the co-operation of Christians throughout our country in this glorious cause, and for the success with which the Holy Spirit has been pleased to crown their labors; and that we humbly implore his future guidance and benediction.

On motion of Rev. Jared B. Waterbury, of the Evangelical Congregational Church, Portsmouth, New-Hampshire; seconded by Rev. Gilbert R. Livingston, D. D. of the Reformed Dutch Church, Philadelphia,

**RESOLVED,**

That this meeting rejoice in the systematic and successful efforts which have been made in this city, and in various parts of the land, during the past year, to supply statedly with Tracts every family willing to receive them; and in the aid which such efforts have incidentally afforded to other philanthropic and benevolent institutions; and that it is desirable this plan of monthly distribution should be persevered in with humble dependence on God for its success.

On motion of Rev. James M'Aboy, of the Baptist Church, one of the Society's Agents in the Valley of the Mississippi; seconded by Thomas Bradford, Jun. Esq. of Philadelphia,

**RESOLVED,**

That this meeting highly approve of that feature of this Society's Constitution, which unites in its labors of love so many different Evangelical denominations; and that we rejoice in the success which has attended these labors, especially in the great Valley of the Mississippi; and that there is encouragement vigorously to prosecute the work.

On motion of Rev. Gardner Spring, D. D. of the Presbyterian Church, New-York; seconded by the Rev. Cornelius C. Cuyler, D. D. of the Reformed Dutch Church, Poughkeepsie, New-York,

**RESOLVED,**

That it is our duty, as a Society, to extend our operations to the heathen who sit in darkness, as well as to supply the destitute portions of our own country.

On motion of Rev. William Hague, of the Baptist Church, Utica, New-York; seconded by the Rev. Elijah Slack, President of the Cincinnati Branch Tract Society,

**RESOLVED,**

That this meeting have learned with pleasure that the Rev. Dr.

Milnor, Chairman of the Executive Committee, will appear as a delegate to represent this Society, at the anniversary of the Religious Tract Society of London, the present month; and that we rejoice in the friendly relations which subsist between this and all kindred institutions at home and abroad.

On motion of the Rev. Thomas M'Auley, D. D. of Philadelphia; seconded by the Rev. Professor J. C. Rostan, of the Baptist Church, recently from France,

The Constitution was so amended that "any Tract Society, annually contributing a donation from its funds to the Treasury of this Society, may be considered an Auxiliary."

On motion of Dr. John Stearns, of New-York, seconded by Rev. Samuel Shepard, D. D. of Lenox, Massachusetts, the Officers of the Society for the ensuing year were then elected, and the Meeting was closed with the apostolic benediction pronounced by the Rev. Benjamin Mortimer, of the Moravian Church, New-York.

The Meeting was addressed in an interesting manner by the Rev. Mr. Stilwell, Rev. Mr. Todd, Rev. Mr. Reynolds, Rev. Mr. Waterbury, Rev. Mr. M'Aboy, Thomas Bradford, Esq. and Rev. Dr. M'Auley. The facts communicated by the Rev. Mr. M'Aboy, from the Valley of the Mississippi, as having occurred under his own eye, and in connexion with his own labors, were highly encouraging; the whole exercises breathed a spirit of piety and Christian love, and were calculated to animate every friend of the Society to redoubled efforts in behalf of this important branch of Christian benevolence.

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

#### PUBLISHING COMMITTEE.

Rev. James Milnor, D. D. of the Episcopal Church.  
Rev. Thos. McAuley, D. D. LL. D. of the Presbyterian Church.  
Rev. John Knox, D. D. of the Reformed Dutch Church.

Rev. Samuel Green, Boston, Massachusetts, of the Congregational Church.  
Rev. Charles G. Sommers, of the Baptist Church.

#### DISTRIBUTING COMMITTEE.

Thomas Stokes,  
Dr. James C. Bliss,  
Timothy Dwight Williams,  
Marcus Wilbur,  
Dr. Marinus Willett, Jun.

#### FINANCE COMMITTEE.

Arthur Tappan,  
Dr. John Stearns,  
Moses Allen,  
Elijah Pierson,  
Richard T. Haines.

Mr. Wm. A. Hallock, *General Agent.* Mr. Jesse Talbot, *Assistant.*  
Mr. Harlan Page, *Depositary.*

### ABSTRACT OF THE FIFTH ANNUAL REPORT.

The Publishing Committee have proceeded with entire unanimity in their labors during the year, and have sanctioned *Sixty-Two* different publications, in *six* different languages, viz. *English, French, Spanish, German, Italian, and Welsh*. Among the Tracts in English are No. 25, *The Effects of Ardent Spirits on the human body and mind*, by Dr. Rush; No. 237, *Spiritual Religion*; No. 238, *Disappointed Hope*; No. 10, occasional, *Testimonies of Rabbinical Writers*,

intended for circulation among Jews; Broadsheets—No. 5, *Life of Philip P—, of Birmingham*; No. 6, *Death of Altamont*; *Twelve Sermons to the Aged*, by Rev. George Burder; and *Memoirs of Rev. John Newton, Archbishop Leighton, and Swartz*.

The addition of these publications to those previously issued, renders the total number of the Society's publications, all of which, except the six broadsheets, are stereotyped, *four hundred and ninety-eight*.

The Committee have also printed, under the supervision of the Rev. T. S. Harris, missionary among the *Seneca Indians*, an edition of a Tract of 110 pages, consisting of Our Lord's Sermon on the Mount and a collection of devotional Hymns, both in Indian and English; the entire edition being presented for use at the missionary stations among those Indians. A correspondence has also been commenced with reference to the preparation of Tracts in the language of the *Chippeway Indians*, which, with its kindred dialects, is spoken very extensively by tribes of Indians northward of Detroit, and of the Upper Settlements on the Mississippi.

Four Tracts, viz. *The Heavenly Way*, *Source of Bliss*, *Sufferings of Polycarp*, and a Tract addressed to Roman Catholic Priests, have been approved by the Committee in *Tamul*; to the publication of which Tracts, the appropriations made by this Society to aid the American missionaries in Ceylon in their Tract operations will be in part, or wholly, devoted.

At the mission station at *Malta*, in the Mediterranean, *ten* of this Society's publications have been translated into Modern Greek; *twelve* into Italian; and *eleven* into Armeno-Turkish.

A proposition having been made by an active friend of the Society to bear a part of the expense of stereotyping and perpetuating *Bunyan's Pilgrim's Progress*, from a belief, to use his own language, that "the salvation of thousands may depend upon it," the Committee have unanimously approved that excellent work, which will be stereotyped as soon as the requisite funds for perpetuating it shall be obtained. The Committee feel that the acceptableness and usefulness of the two kindred works, *Doddridge's Rise and Progress* and *Baxter's Saints' Rest*, already issued by the Society, particularly in the more recent settlements of our country, afford special encouragement to add to them also the *Pilgrim's Progress*; and they confidently hope the Biographies of the devout Newton, Leighton, and Swartz, as well as *Sermons to the Aged*, by Burder, will exert a corresponding influence wherever they shall be read, in favor of Evangelical piety.

The *American Tract Magazine* is regularly published in the form of a half sheet monthly. The *Christian Almanac* for 1830 was published in 21 distinct editions.

Whole number of Tracts printed during the year, 5,239,000

Whole number printed since the formation of the Society, 20,341,000

Whole number of pages of duodecimo Tracts printed during the year, 61,440,000

Whole number of pages of do. printed since the formation of the Society, 166,152,000

## Whole number of pages of English duodecimo Tracts

circulated during the year	54,159,900
Do. do. of Foreign duodecimo Tracts	1,500,688
Total amount of pages circulated during the year	62,360,444
Total, circulated since the formation of the Society	185,957,222

It appears from the above that the amount of duodecimo Tracts circulated during the year exceeds the whole amount printed during the year by more than 4,000,000 pages; and the whole amount of publications circulated during the year now closing, exceeds the amount circulated in the preceding year, by more than 13,000,000 pages.

There have been circulated during the year of the Tract of 60 pages on Universalism 24,900; of the Tracts on Female Influence and The Sanctuary 74,000 copies each; of the Importance of Consideration 99,000; of Kittredge's Address and Quench not the Spirit 123,000 each; of Do you want a Friend? 144,000. Of the Premium Tract to American Youth on Temperance 122,000 copies have been circulated within the last *four months*. The whole of the Society's Tracts on the subject of Temperance which have been circulated during the year is 329,824.

The *Gratuitous Distributions* during the year have amounted to 3,883,128 pages; of which 2,655,067 pages have been distributed West and South of the Alleghany, and 211,880 have consisted of Tracts in Foreign languages.

The Committee earnestly hope, that donations will be made to the Society which will enable it fully to sustain this important branch of its operations in the destitute parts of our own country; and greatly to enlarge its grants and appropriations for other portions of the world, especially the American missionary stations among the heathen.

## STATE OF THE FUNDS.

*Received*, during the year ending May 1,

For Tracts sold nearly at cost,	\$48,454.59
Donations,	11,755.66

Total receipts during the year \$60,210.24

*Paid*, during the year,

For paper,	26,997.26
For printing, stereotyping, engraving, folding, stitching and binding,	22,396.39
All other expenses, as by items in the Treasurer's Report	10,817.59

Total paid during the year \$60,210.24

On closing the accounts for the year, the whole amount in the Treasury was drawn and paid over to meet, in part, the bills due; leaving the sum of \$700 07, then due, still unpaid. There was also due from the Society, on notes given by members of the Committee for paper, all payable previous to the 25th day of November, \$8,918 58.

It is much to be desired, that the Society should have means to procure paper and printing without resorting continually to the indivi-

dual responsibility of members of the Committee. But there has, at no time during the year, been funds enough in the Treasury to meet the current expenses of the Society for ten days; as more than half the weekly meetings the bills sanctioned by them have exceeded the whole amount of funds at their disposal, and at one period near the close of the autumn, it became necessary to raise \$5,000 from the banks to meet existing demands.

The Committee would further remark, that immediately after the first day of January last, they appointed special Committees to examine minutely into all the Society's expenses, for paper, printing, folding and binding, agency, and all other items necessary to the transaction of its concerns; with a view to ascertaining whether any diminution could be made in any of its expenses, or whether any alterations should be made in the prices of its publications. Those special Committees entered with energy on the duties assigned them; and after laborious and faithful examination, arrived at results, of the essential accuracy of which there can be no question; and which the Committee desire fully to spread out before the Christian community, by whose prayers, and alms, and efforts, the Institution is sustained.

[The Report contains numerous detailed statements relative to the pecuniary concerns of the Society, which are here omitted for want of room.]

*Principles on which the Society's Pecuniary Concerns are Transacted.*

These concerns are under the sole direction of the Committee, who themselves receive no pecuniary compensation in any form whatever. They endeavor to procure good materials, and to secure the performance of the mechanical part of the Society's operations, in such a manner that the publications issued shall be substantial and durable; and at the same time to obtain the whole on the lowest practicable terms.

The paper is procured by a special Committee, on the most favorable terms which the state of the market will allow.

The printing, and folding and binding, are done in the Society's house, by men who use their own type, presses, &c. at no risk of the Society, and are paid only for the amount of work actually done and delivered in a fit state for circulation. All their proceedings are continually open to the inspection of the Committee and the General Agent; and they are obligated, at all times, to enlarge their operations or diminish them, as the interests of the Society shall require. The Committee have, during the past year, made a careful investigation as to the prices paid in each of these departments; have obtained a small reduction in each; and are convinced that, at present, the Society can make no contracts more favorable to the best interests of the Tract cause, than those now existing.

The Committee have made similar investigations in regard to the amount of agency required in the Tract House, and are satisfied that the compensations given are reasonable, and that the individuals employed, while they are not less devoted to the best interests of the Society than your Committee themselves, are pressed with duty to the full measure of their ability to discharge it—all of them being entirely separated from any other worldly business whatever—and giving themselves wholly to this work.

The employing of *Travelling Agents*, the Committee consider to be among the most responsible of their duties. Were all Christians as active as the claims of the Gospel require, the Committee believe a great portion of the labors of such Agents might be dispensed with. But multitudes, who apparently know their duty, need to be excited to action; many are ignorant of the character and usefulness of the Society, and need to be informed; and there are very large portions of the country destitute, in a great degree, of all other means of grace, which probably would never be supplied with the Society's publications, except through the presence and labors of the Society's Agents. It is the object of the Committee to employ in this service only faithful, devoted men, who will exert an influence favorable to all the interests of Evangelical piety, and who will labor not for the sake of obtaining the small compensation allowed them, but for the honor of Christ in the salvation of perishing men.

#### BRANCHES AND AUXILIARIES.

The number of new Auxiliaries recognized during the year is 119, making the whole number of Branches and Auxiliaries now immediately connected with the Parent Society 825.

Besides these, the American Tract Society at Boston, at the time of its last Anniversary, had 610 Auxiliaries; the Pennsylvania Branch at Philadelphia, 373; and there are in connexion with other large Branches or Auxiliaries, 800 to which the American Tract Magazine is regularly sent gratis; making 1,783; which, added to 825 above, gives a total of 2,608 Societies which have been reported as Auxiliary to this Society, either directly, or through the medium of larger Branches and Auxiliaries.

These various Societies constitute the life of the Parent Institution, and on their persevering activity in the prosecution of their labors depends, in a very high degree, under God, the extent and success of the Tract operations of our country.

#### SYSTEMATIC MONTHLY DISTRIBUTION.

The hand of Providence has been so apparent in the origin, progress and success of this system of effort as to render it an interesting item in the history of the Tract cause. It has arrested the attention of the active friends of Tracts in our country generally, and of our fellow-laborers in the same cause on the other side of the Atlantic.

The Committee are aware that there are some serious *obstacles* to the continuance and progress of this work. It requires in those engaged in it the exercise of a living faith in the great realities of eternity; a high sense of obligation to Christ and the souls of men, and an amount of labor, and a degree of Christian activity and perseverance, which the grace of God in the heart alone can sustain; and, as it tenders the message of the Gospel to *all*—high and low, rich and poor—implying that *all* are sinners, and must be saved through that atoning blood which is set forth in the humble pages of a Tract, or perish for ever, it must of course encounter some opposition, though it bears on its very front the aspect of pure and universal benevolence.

But, on the other hand, *motives* are not wanting in favor of this system of effort, which are of all-absorbing interest, and are drawn

from the very genius of the Gospel, and from the prominent principles of action which characterize the era of Christian benevolence in which we live. What one principle more distinctly characterizes this era, than that Christians are beginning to view the Gospel, not as a blessing to be treasured up and enjoyed by themselves alone, or merely to be preserved, where others who feel its importance may come and share its blessings; but which is to be **CARRIED AND TENDERED** to every individual of all our race, who must be saved through the Redemption it makes known, or sink into perdition. On this principle is based the effort that is making, or should be made, to place the Holy Scriptures in every family; to send forth the living Teacher to proclaim to all the tidings of the Gospel; to gather all the young into Sabbath and Infant Schools; and in every way to communicate to all the knowledge of Him, whom to know aright is life eternal.

While the Committee will regard with deep interest the unfoldings of Divine Providence respecting this system of effort during another year, they would express their earnest desire, that it may by no Christian be perverted as an apology for the neglect of promiscuous Tract distribution wherever the opportunity of usefulness may be presented.

#### OPERATIONS IN THE VALLEY OF THE MISSISSIPPI.

In the history of the Society's operations during the year, no item is more prominent than its efforts for the population in the great Valley watered by the Mississippi and its tributaries.

In all other parts of the country, the Society has had but *four Travelling Agents* employed for any considerable portion of the year, only one of whom now continues in this service. They are **REV. AMOS BLANCHARD**, who labored a part of the year in the vicinity of Utica, N. Y.; **REV. JOSEPH WOOD**, who labored some months in the South-Western portion of the same State; **REV. ANDREW H. REED**, who has been laboring in Maryland; and **Mr. ALBERT HALE**, who labored all the former part of the year in Georgia.

Of the six Agents who were laboring in the Valley of the Mississippi at the time of the Society's last Anniversary, two have left the service of the Society, and another, **Mr. ALFRED HAMILTON**, who commenced his labors about one year since, has felt himself compelled to suspend them for some months; but six others have, during the year, engaged in this service, making the whole number now laboring in that interesting field **NINE**: viz. **REV. ORNAN EASTMAN**, the Society's General Agent, who has personally visited a great number of the principal towns, and who exercises a supervision over the entire operations of the Society West of the Alleghany; **REV. JAMES M'ABOY**, who has been laboring chiefly in Western Pennsylvania and Western Virginia; **REV. FRANCIS H. CASE**, whose field of labor has been Alabama and Tennessee; **REV. CYRUS W. ALLEN**, who is laboring in Missouri and Illinois; **REV. CYRUS W. CONANT**, who is laboring in Indiana; **REV. WILLIAM EASTMAN** and **REV. JAMES SEYMOUR**, who have for some months been laboring in Western Pennsylvania, chiefly in connection with the efforts of the Rev. Mr. M'Aboy; Mr.

LUCIUS C. ROUSE, who has been laboring in Ohio; and Rev. A. LOGAN, who has recently commenced efforts for the Society in the State of Mississippi.

The correspondence and reports of these brethren, as they have come to hand from week to week, during the year, have been read by the Committee with intense interest; and have inspired them, they hope, with a regard to the Spiritual welfare of our country, which will not cease to animate their highest and noblest efforts. If ever Christians had a work spread before them, at once of magnitude beyond all that the mind can grasp, and full of promise, in such a work are Christians of these United States now called to engage, and among the rising, forming, giant people within the limits of their own territory. Unbelief, indeed, may sing her dulcet song that "all is well;" but the Committee believe that all active, enlightened, Evangelical Christians, of every name, fully agree in the conviction, that sin is making alarming progress in our land, and that the Gospel must have a greater prevalence, or millions of souls will be left to perish in the native darkness of their minds; and our free and happy institutions, in the absence of moral principle, to fall under the just judgment of God, and the weight of our nation's iniquities. There is no patriotism nor piety in crying, "peace, peace, when there is no peace." The Committee would wish the moral state of our country to be seen as it really is; that motives, furnished by appalling facts, may press upon the hearts of the real children of God, and impel them to discharge the duties they owe to their fellow-men, to the cause they love, and to the Master they serve.

In this view they would spread before the Society and the Christian community, a portion of the communications of our Brethren who have been laboring in the wide West; already embracing its population of 5,000,000; which, to all human view, is soon to swell to 10,000,000; 20,000,000; 50,000,000, and onward; and to embrace the mass of the inhabitants of one of the greatest and most powerful nations that shall dwell on the face of the earth. These communications pertain to the character, extent, and wants of the field to be occupied; the aid there given by the friends of the cause; and the inducements which urge the followers of Christ, without delay, to spread throughout the length and breadth of it the saving influences of the Gospel.

The amount of Tracts we have *gratuitously distributed* in this country, says one of the Society's Agents at the West, may seem large to you and the Committee, but had you been with us, and seen what we have seen—had you seen the people in this emphatically destitute region, wandering like sheep without a shepherd—we are certain you could not have withheld these means of grace. Oh, it is enough to make the heart ach with almost deepest pain, to see such multitudes of immortal beings hastening on to the grave and eternal death, with scarcely any one to warn them of the dark abyss, or entreat them to flee from the wrath to come. While we have been thus sowing, as it were, the seeds of spiritual life, we have been praying the Lord of the harvest to distil upon it the dews of his heavenly grace. And, my dear brother, I do look upon our efforts the past month in this coun-



try, as the harbinger of better days to this moral waste, embracing not far from 20,000 souls.

In travelling 250 miles in the interior of this state, says another Agent in the South-Western part of the Valley, *my whole travelling expenses have been less than one shilling*. The gentleman at whose house I am now writing furnished me with a horse and letters of introduction to friends, and the people are very hospitable. Withal I have seen the wants of another portion of our country, and found some new arguments for renewed zeal in the Tract cause. Most of the persons to whom I presented a Tract, said they *had never seen one before*, and many did not know the meaning of the term Tract as applied to a book. Many expressed great surprise that I should give them little books. We are truly engaged in a *great work*. You talk about the great country West of the Alleghany, but could you travel through its length and breadth, and see it as it is, you would be convinced that all your anticipations of the future growth and extent of its population will be more than realized.

Among the most prominent *obstacles* to be here encountered in this cause, says an Agent laboring in one of the darkest parts of our whole land, I would mention the following: First, sectarian partialities: while all the friends of Christ are so few, I cannot bear to see any thing like a dividing of our forces. The next thing to be mentioned is a deplorable ignorance among the people. Many cannot read. Next a want of devoted Christians: in one county town I could find but one professing Christian and she was a visitor in the place. And to these may be added the difficulty, in this newly settled and scattered country, of getting the people together in order that they may be informed on the subject. But in the midst of all these obstacles, I have hourly encouragement to labor for the Society. I thank the Committee, and I trust I thank God for putting me into this service. I trust that no consideration will be suffered to appal the hearts of the conductors of the Society, or to unnerve their arm: they will see in eternity most blessed fruits of their labors.

It will be gratifying to the friends of the Society to be informed, that, in connexion with the grant of 500,000 pages of Tracts for the City of New-Orleans and the vicinity, alluded to in a former part of this report, the Committee have commissioned an Agent, exclusive of those mentioned above, MR. MOSES H. WILDER, to engage in the personal distribution of Tracts in New-Orleans, and in superintending the Depository of the Board of Agency in that City. These proceedings on the part of this Society have been very gratefully acknowledged by that Board; and the Agent is successfully prosecuting his work. More definite results, the Committee hope to be able to communicate to the Society in their next Annual Report.

The whole amount of Tracts sent into the country West and South of the Alleghany, during the past year, is 24,099,800 pages, of which 2,655,067 pages have been granted by the Society for gratuitous distributions. The total receipts from the same portion of country during the year, have been \$14,927 13, of which \$941 64 were donations, and the remainder in payment for Tracts.

The Committee subjoin a few additional testimonies from various

sources, but of unquestionable credibility, in corroboration of the above from the Society's Agents.

"The day is evidently hastening," says a most excellent clergyman, who has resided for many years west of the Alleghany, "that is to draw a visible line of separation between the friends and the enemies of truth and holiness. Could your Committee and wealthy friends of your Society see the progress of *error and vice* at the West—the wide West—which is soon to give character and laws to the nation, they would tremble as they have never yet trembled for *our country*. The progress of *Romanism*, together with open and disguised *infidelity*, in the great Valley of the Mississippi, will require, according to present appearances, but a few years to prepare from your presses a Tract, which you may entitle, 'The last Hope of the World fallen'—'America Ruined:'—and shall it be? Shall this progress not be checked? I know that you are doing much. But, dear Sir, while the thanksgivings of many, very many souls ascend to God for the abundant liberality of your Society, and of Bible and Missionary Societies, be assured that, in your department, and in all the departments of benevolence, efforts *altogether unprecedented* must be made, and made soon, or our country is *lost*—our civil and religious institutions—all the blessings of a free government will be swallowed up as with a flood, and Wo! Wo! will be written in tears and blood all over this once fair and happy land."

#### OPERATIONS BEYOND THE BOUNDARIES OF OUR OWN COUNTRY.

The Committee consider the Tract system adapted to be eminently useful in extending a knowledge of the Gospel in unevangelized portions of the earth; and believe that there are sacred and imperious claims upon the Society to make greater efforts for those who are sitting in darkness and the shadow of death. The moral desolations of a large portion of our own continent, of Greece, and other countries on the Mediterranean, and the wants of five or six hundred millions of our race still shrouded in the midnight gloom of Paganism, all appeal to the Christian sympathies of this Society. God, in his providence, is preparing the way before us; languages most extensively spoken are already conquered; printing presses are in operation; and laborers scattered abroad in the wide field urge us to efforts worthy of the age in which we live, and the light and privileges, and means God has bestowed on us.

Numerous communications received during the year from foreign lands, show that the providence of God is now greatly in advance of the movements of the Society.

#### DIVINE BLESSING ON THE SOCIETY'S PUBLICATIONS.

The most striking of the multiplied evidences of the usefulness of Tracts, which are communicated to the Committee, they feel bound to condense into their Annual Report, as a monument to the praise of Divine grace, and for the encouragement of all who labor in this cause. The past year has been as fruitful in these tokens of mercy as any that have preceded it, bearing a precious evidence of the continued smiles and blessing of God upon the Society. As God alone

knoweth the heart, which is "deceitful above all things and desperately wicked," the Committee claim not to decide who, of those that have been apparently brought into the kingdom of Christ through the instrumentality of these publications, will be found in the day of judgment to have been truly born again. They would, however, in respect to the facts which they are about to record, explicitly state the following particulars.

1. They are all circumstances which have occurred in our own country, and almost all of them have been communicated directly to this Society or some of its Branches or Auxiliaries during the year past.

2. They have, almost without exception, been communicated by decidedly Evangelical Christians, who have, beyond question, endeavored to communicate what they considered to be the simple matters of fact.

3. Though these communications have been generally very much abridged, and in numerous instances inaccuracies of language corrected, the substance of them is retained with the most scrupulous and conscientious accuracy. The honor of religion requires no exaggerated statements of its triumphs.

4. A part of the following facts have been published, during the year, in the Society's Tract Magazine, the Annual Reports of Branches or Auxiliaries, and some of the religious journals of the day. The remainder are now for the first time made public.

5. The surprising variety of sources from which these facts have been communicated, from persons of different religious denominations in every portion of the country; and the diversity of circumstances in which the publications have been blessed, at once corroborate the reality of the narrations, and afford an argument for using this means of grace in every way that may occur to the thought of a Christian—"In the morning sow thy seed, and in the evening withhold not thine hand, for thou knowest not which shall prosper, this or that."

6. It is a delightful fact, that as the Institution is sustained by the united efforts of Christians of different names, so the accessions made to the church of Christ by the divine blessing on its publications are through all the various Evangelical denominations. The object of the Tract is to direct the sinner, not to one denomination of Christians or another; but to the Bible and the Savior—to pluck his soul as a brand from the burning, and save him from the perdition of the ungodly. Churches who have done little in promotion of this Society have received accessions through its instrumentality; and but for the fulfilment of the promise that it is more blessed to give than to receive, may have been more richly blessed than many of those by whose alms and efforts the Society has been sustained.

[The interesting facts contained in the report, which have never been published, are very numerous; our limits permit us to insert only the following instance:]

#### POWERFUL PREACHING ON A DEATH-BED.

A man, who had been residing in a truly pious evangelical family in Massachusetts, left them on account of the failure of his health, and

returned to his native town, where the preaching was Unitarian; and being anxious for the welfare of his soul, took with him a large quantity of Tracts, hoping to learn from them the way of salvation. His health continued rapidly to decline, and his attention to the concerns of religion became very deep and earnest—he read his Tracts continually, and was enabled to repose his eternal all on Christ, whose atoning blood he found was sufficient to cleanse from all sin. He then became anxious for the souls of those around him, with whom he had long been acquainted, and who he had reason to believe had no just views of the evil of sin or the way of salvation: and while he lay on his dying-bed would select for one and another as they came to visit him, such Tracts as he thought most appropriate to their spiritual condition. At length finding his lungs had become so oppressed that he could speak only in a whisper, though he retained the full energy of his mind, and was able to be supported in his bed where he could use his arms, and fearing that soon he should be unable longer to speak at all, he made known his apprehensions to the nurse, saying to her that he wished to do something to warn his acquaintances who might come to see him to be prepared for death; and that when he gave any of them a Tract, he wished her to say that he had selected it as his dying counsel, in view of that eternity on which he was just entering. His voice departed: but he continued to present his messages of mercy, selecting a Tract for one and another, with surprising appropriateness to their spiritual condition. Even after he was no longer able to raise his arm, he used his hands, balancing them upon his wrists, and signifying which Tract he designed for each person; and thus he continued his work of mercy till his feeble hands fell in death, and his spirit took its flight. He may have thus, by Tracts, in the hours of his dissolution, been the means of bringing more souls to Christ than many professed Christians during their whole life.\*

#### CONCLUSION.

Thus have the Committee presented an imperfect view of what God has done for this Society, and by its instrumentality, during another year—the harmony that has prevailed; the means that have been afforded; the labors performed; and the conquests made in the kingdom of darkness. God's omniscient eye has doubtless seen ten thousand influences exerted which are unknown to the Committee, and are reserved for the revelations of the final Judgment. He sees this work in all its magnitude; and the Committee entreat all who have an interest at the throne of his grace, to plead with him in devout and unceasing supplication for wisdom to guide the future operations of the Society, and the influences of his Holy Spirit to render them effectual in saving immortal men, and advancing the cause of his own dear Son, to whom "be glory in the church" "for ever."

\* On the cover of this Number of the Magazine will be found several very interesting anecdotes of the usefulness of Tracts.

## ADDRESSES

*At the Anniversary of the American Tract Society, May 12, 1830.\**

FROM THE ADDRESS OF REV. JOHN TODD, OF GROTON, MASS.

You have doubtless, Mr. President, noticed and admired that natural love of country which a wise Providence has planted in the bosom of man. Whether born among the spicy groves of the East, or cradled on the snows of the North, or on the burning sands of the desert, the spot where you lisped the language of infancy is dear. The Arab amid his caravan of camels, and the child of Africa shrinking from the footsteps of the tyger and the lion, knows no country like his. Our Pilgrim-fathers gave to their cottages and rivers here, the names of the homes and the rivers which they had left across the great waters, because associations tender and delightful were excited by these names. It was not romance, but this principle of our nature, which led the poor man, in the French revolution, when forbidden to set foot on land, to anchor his family off in a little boat in the middle of the Rhine, there to console himself that, when he inhaled the evening breeze, he was breathing the air which had just passed over his country. All have felt something of this, and the *Christian* knows, that piety does not lessen this feeling. The prophet of tears wept as a *patriot*, as well as a prophet, when the gold had become dim, and the most fine gold changed. So wept Elisha over the blushing Hazael; and so wept Christ Jesus over that city whose name is associated with all that is tender. And I trust, Sir, that this deep love of country has done something toward calling this assembly together, and that it will secure your attention—not while I analyze and define this feeling—but while I attempt to show how we may so employ it as to bless our nation.

Fame will call those *few* patriots, and those only, who are distinguished by brilliant deeds. So a few only have the name of being benevolent. But that Holy One, who calls the widow's mite benevolence, sees many a Christian's bosom throbbing for the welfare of our country, and in his sight this is true patriotism. And it should be a matter of joy that every appeal which reaches our Christian feelings reaches also our patriotism; for we cannot achieve a single victory for Christ without doing something for our nation.

I have often walked over the beautiful hills among which Providence hath cast my lot, and as often have my thoughts wandered off far, far beyond the blue mountains which bounded my vision, and surveyed this great nation. Looking down the path-way of time, I have seen the myriads who shall swarm here, when I am gone and forgotten; and then I have traced their quickly-succeeding generations, as they came and passed behind the curtain of eternity, like shadows over a beautiful fountain. Among these visions, which will soon be reality, there is much to cause the heart of the Christian to leap with joy, and much—perhaps more—to thrill it with an agony which language is feeble to express. For I do believe the heart will be warm with patriotism in proportion as it burns with piety.

\* For the resolutions offered see page 62.

Neither you, nor this audience, Mr. President, have a wish to hear a harangue upon the dangers which hang over a nation like ours, where every man is tempted to differ from his neighbor just to show that he is independent. That clash of interests and of parties, whenever a great election takes place, will dash our hopes, unless there be constant and powerful counteracting causes. The notes of discord will continue to come in longer and deeper peals from our senate, and be echoed back by ten thousand opposing interests from different parts of our country. In vain we tell of our greatness, and say we are moving forward with the steady tread of the elephant. This elephant is the most terrible of all animals, if once he becomes infuriated; and the most restless and agonized of all, if disease once be spread through his mighty frame, and torture his unwieldy system with pain which medicine cannot reach.

I rejoiced to hear our respected friend and brother\* speak with so much confidence yesterday as to the permanency and stability of our republic. I confess that my narrow views have excited many fears on this point; but however this may be, we shall agree as to the sources of safety. Let it be engraven, Sir, upon the heart as with a diamond, that if there be salvation for our country, it will come—not from our form of government—not from our rulers—but from the great body of the people. All our institutions are reared to stand on the morals, the intelligence, and the religion of the people at large; and with these they must stand or fall. They are designed for a sanctified, a holy people, and they can exist among none other. Let piety guide the nation then, and its legislation, which is only the index of public opinion, will be guided aright of course.

We are called upon to act as patriots while we act as Christians, and our sphere of action is not that which will attract many eyes. Such honors might smother our piety, and Christ will not consent that those whom he has redeemed shall be put off with the poor rewards of this world.

But our influence is none the less for being silent. Had the church of Christ in this land, for the last two years, been a body of cardinals, and given laws to this nation, she could not have hoped to accomplish a thousandth part as much as she has done for the temporal and eternal welfare of this country, by exciting, sustaining, and extending the Temperance Reformation. The people of God are the salt of the earth, because, with holy Daniel and Job, they pray for their country, and because they step in and act for God and man, at the very place where none but Christian motives could lead men. Men enough are ready to fill our halls of legislation, and our honorable stations, but what patriot beside the Christian dared go out, with "Abstinence" for his motto, and dry up that stream from the nether world, on which we were hurrying toward that gulf of ruin in which all other republics have been swallowed up! Amid obloquy and reproach, the Christian alone was first seen moving in this great work—a work which promises more for this nation, than if he had caused a ship of war, bearing our flag, to ride over every wave of the Pacific, or had opened the bowels of our mightiest mountains, and let out thence rivers of

\* Thomas Bradford, Esq. of Philadelphia.

molten gold. The church of Christ receives not her praise here; nor need she. A book of remembrance is before God.

Was an object ever more unpopular than that which so long engaged the noblest efforts of Wilberforce? Scarcely a voice was heard but it was the clamour of opposition. But the victory was obtained by the irresistible power of Christian love. A redeemed nation will one day raise statues to the memory of that man, and all nations will bless his name. But who would have waded through all these streams of obloquy and angry resistance, except one who, like Wilberforce, was upheld and led forward by the Spirit of Jesus Christ? This, Sir, I call Christian patriotism; and it is the same thing whether acting in the British parliament or in a Tract Society.

You see, Sir, what I mean by acting as patriots while we act as Christians, and thus do we hope the Gospel will be the temporal salvation of our country; not by compulsion; but by regulating and sanctifying public opinion, and thus leavening the whole lump.

The politician can see many an evil and dread it; but what can he do? He can act with efficiency only when he expects results to be immediate and his reward soon to follow; but the Christian acts when results are seen by the eye of faith, and his rewards are not expected on the shores of time. Hence he plans and acts amid the bitterest scorn and the most virulent opposition, and can find a highway of mercy over the great deep, while others are prudently deliberating whether they shall put out to sea.

Statesmen, and men of this world, feel the importance of education, and may pass their laws and draw out their plans. They have taken to themselves all the credit of forming the intellectual character of this nation. Let this be so; but give us our Sabbath School system, and our Bible classes, by which we bring the lively oracles of God into direct contact with the conscience of the rising generation; give us our Tract system, by which we carry the fruits of the tree of life to the bosom of every family, and cause mercies to fall unseen like the dews of evening; and at the great day it will be seen that Christians are patriots in the highest and best sense of the word. You may take any, and all of the great efforts of this age—efforts which promise to roll untold blessings down to the generations which are to follow us, and you will see that if any of these promises are fulfilled, it will be in answer to the Christian's prayers and the Christian's efforts.

Others can better express their confidence and joy at the prospects which open to our country from the Tract System, than myself; but no one can feel them more deeply. I will not revel in what may be feasonably anticipated; but let me point you, for an instant, to that dark heap of ruins which past ages have piled over other nations. Oh! had this same system of Tract distribution been known to those saints who have for centuries been sleeping in the dust, how different would have been the aspect of the world to-day! It would have caused the river of peace to temper that fierce public sentiment which has thousands and thousands of times gathered the strength of nations together, and crushed them in the shock of battle. That land of darkness and bloodshed, where the false Prophet has reared his crescent, would not have been that den of pollution and cruelty which is still spared trembling on the brink of ruin, yet to drink of

the wrath of God. Had the church possessed this machinery then, the Man of Sin would never have ascended the hill of God, and sat and lorded it over God's heritage, till the name of Christ became the cloak of all that is abominable. I know very well that this system meets the contempt of those who deny that mercy may be conveyed in small earthen vessels; and I know as well that mercy thus conveyed, in multitudes of instances at least, is attended by the Spirit of God, and is omnipotent to heal the diseases of the soul.

It will be but a short time, Sir, ere you and those who are permitted to rejoice and act with you to-day, if disciples of Jesus, will be gone to that world where sin, and doubts, and fears are unknown. If allowed to mingle with that great company who go out ministering to those who shall be heirs of salvation, I cannot believe that even then you will forget this country, so fair, so blessed, so tempted and so increasingly wicked. And tell me, Sir, will it add nothing to that stream of joy which will then thrill through your heart to feel that, under God, such a machinery was put and kept in motion by your instrumentality—a machinery which will not stop till all the hungry are fed. Ah! Sir, and how will you feel, when you shall see one and another poor wanderer conducted to the realms of glory, and as he casts his crown at the feet of the Lamb, tells how he was first led to Jesus by a Tract, which was prepared and sent to him by this Society!

A few more days, and in the nakedness of spirit we shall go—our bodies moulder—our names be forgotten—the heavens shall wax old—the earth reel with age and then will the angel place one foot on the sea, and one on the dry land, and lifting his hand to heaven, swear by Him that liveth for ever and ever, that time shall be no longer: and then shall the angel of the Resurrection raise his trumpet, and place the dead, small and great, before God; and then shall the books be opened, and then that other book, which is the book of life, shall be read—and their names shall all be read—and one, yea, many—a great multitude shall be found there—and, under God, they were led to the throne of the Lamb by this Society.

ADDRESS OF REV. JARED B. WATERBURY, OF THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, PORTSMOUTH, N. H.

This resolution, Sir, embraces topics of thrilling interest. I like much the tone and spirit of it. But, as appears to me, it properly belongs to other hands. It should have been committed to one of those individuals, who, with great self-denial and perseverance, have explored and supplied with Tracts the Wards of this great City. Their eyes have seen; their hearts have felt; and they could have stood here to-day and told us *what* they have seen, and how *deeply* they have felt. I intend not to pass unmeaning compliments. This is not the place for them; nor are they the persons who desire them. There is a purer satisfaction, and they labor in view of a higher reward. A mechanic in a neighboring village, to whom the Tracts had been given, inquired of the distributor, how he expected to be recompensed for all his expense and trouble. He was told that no other reward was expected on this side of Heaven, than the pleasure arising from efforts to promote the glory of God and the welfare of souls. Ah, replied the man, that truly is reward enough.

The resolution calls upon us to rejoice in view of past success. Sir, we



do reject. We would not appear, on this hallowed occasion, like the vaunting champions of earth, with beating drums and banners flying. Ours is not the noisy outcry of successful ambition. It is the calm, grateful satisfaction of having attempted great things; of having expected great things; and thanks be unto God, of having, Sir, realized great things. I do not say that you have met and conquered the hosts of depravity—that nothing remains but to collect the spoils and to record the triumph. No, Sir! but you have overcome that fearfulness which precedes the onset, a barrier, as soldiers tell us, more formidable than the actual encounter.

When the plan of monthly distribution was proposed for this city, there were few, I presume, who did not tremble for the result. The resolution was a noble one. It struck the imagination with wonder and delight. But who of us was without his fears? It was well known that there is scarcely a more heterogeneous population on earth. It embraces individuals of every denomination, and from almost every clime. The practicability of supplying them with evangelical Tracts, in a *certain way*, could be easily conceived. The distributor could, without much difficulty, drop a Tract at every door, and leave it to be received or rejected at pleasure. Such a course would be attended with little self-denial: and allow me to add, Sir, probably with *as little success*. It would be scattering the precious grain at random. If such had been your course the past year, we should not have met here to-day to shout the harvest home. But your plan recognized the duty of delivering personally the sacred treasure, accompanied with appropriate remarks of the distributor. This is the self-denying feature of the system; and it is the real secret, under God, of your unexampled success. This is inclosing and cultivating the ground. It is sowing the good seed of the word with a careful hand. And what are the results? Are they such as our fearful hearts anticipated? Have your benevolent agents been met by rudeness and opposition? Let the affecting, but cheering details of the Monthly Reports answer.

You inform us that in this city alone, to say nothing of numerous other places, the Tracts have been presented, every month, to thirty thousand families; and that during the past year only five hundred, on an average, have refused them. Twenty-nine thousand five hundred families, then, have actually received them. Sir, this glorious result should put unbelief for ever to the blush. It should cause our hearts to beat with one simultaneous impulse of gratitude to God.

Shall I call upon the distributors to rise and relate the incidents of success which have fallen under their observation? Ah! Sir, the catalogue would be so long, and the circumstances so deeply affecting, that time and feeling would be alike exhausted. They could tell us of the sorrows of widowhood assuaged—of the profligate reclaimed—of the burdens of poverty alleviated—of anger changed to gentleness—of profane habits abandoned—of sabbath violations ceased. But Sir, you have this day told us even more. You have spoken of the tear of penitence, and of the radiant smile of hope. You have spoken of death-beds, where the soul converted from sin and confirmed in the faith, has taken its triumphant departure to glory. When I listened to the circumstance, related in your report, of the young man whose attention was arrested, and whose heart was melted, by one of your Tracts which some passenger had dropped on the high-way, I was reminded of the conversion of Saul of Tarsus. True, that young man was not spurring on his charger to accomplish a bloody persecution; nor was he dashed to the ground by a miraculous vision of the Lord. But, Sir, he was an enemy of God; was prostrated by a voice as effectual though not as fearful, and, like the great apostle, he has, you inform us, become a chosen vessel to bear the name of Jesus to the Gentiles.

And how much unobserved good has flowed from the almost innumerable Tracts which you have distributed? Many a heart, I doubt not, has bled in secret over them; and many a soul will pass into eternity and render there the gratitude which circumstances did not permit it to express here on earth.

Since this benevolent plan of supplying every family monthly with a Tract, has been in operation, there has been a visible abatement of interest in the demoralizing amusements of the city. Other causes may have co-operated to produce this result; but I shall not, I trust, be thought a fanatic, if I attribute it in part to this silent spring of Christian charity. Yes, Sir, while the court of Thespis has been thinning, the house of God has been crowded; and whilst the splendid Theatre has been closed, the walls of at least one blessed sanctuary have been rising.

The resolution speaks of your efforts, as affording incidental aid to other benevolent and philanthropic institutions of the age. Does this need confirmation? Do not your Tracts recommend the Bible, and thus subserve the interests of that noble institution which is doing so much, at the present time, to distribute it? Do they not implant and foster the spirit of Missions? Are they not the very nutriment of the Sabbath School? You have also attacked, with no small success, that great evil in our country, I had almost said that root of *all* evils, *intemperance*. True, you have not slain the hydra. But with your system of attack you have very greatly annoyed him. You propose to cut off his aliment, instead of cleaving down his heads. It is needless to add, Sir, that the system of *total abstinence* must ultimately kill him. View the Tract Society under what aspect you please, its bearing on individuals, or its benign aspect on the country at large, you shall pronounce it one of the most effectual though unobtrusive promoters of the public good. In the language of a speaker who preceded me, it adapts itself to all classes, and to every condition of life. Yes, Sir, it has a message for the Minister in the desk, and for the Christian in his closet. It visits the prisoner in his cell, and follows the mariner to the ocean. It has a balm for every wound, a medicine for every disorder. It takes its messages directly from the Bible. It glories in shining with a borrowed light. The Bible Society is often and appropriately compared to the Sun. But, Sir, if the Bible Society is the Sun, the Tract Society is the atmospheric medium that reflects the glorious rays, and throws them into every dark corner of the earth. Need we invite co-operation in such a cause? Need we exhort to perseverance? The results detailed in your Report, Sir, are the eloquence of facts. Let them speak, and let the American Church feel, and act.

SKETCH OF THE ADDRESS OF REV. JAMES M'ABOT, OF THE BAPTIST CHURCH, ONE OF THE SOCIETY'S AGENTS AT THE WEST.

I have come, Mr President, from the West—from the *Valley of the Mississippi*—to return to you the thanks of thousands, and tens of thousands, for your benevolence in sending to them Agents to form Tract Societies and gratuitously distribute Tracts. They needed just such an effort. They have manifested their gratitude in their kindness to your Agents, and the promptitude with which they have co-operated in the objects of your benevolence.

Among those who are the most favored with other means, Tracts have quickened the attention to divine things. They have assisted the devoted minister in his pastoral visits, and aroused Christians to action. But among the people to whom the Sabbath brings no minister—who have no sanctuary—Tracts are peculiarly needed. Such

neighborhoods are not few in the Valley of the Mississippi. But the extent of destitution is a very delicate subject to be touched by an Agent; for such is the pride of human nature, that people do not relish the report that calls them destitute, even when their supply amounts only to week-day preaching once in a month, and when the person who ministers to them only "darkens counsel by words without knowledge."

I supplied with Tracts a neighborhood, in which there were 10 or 15 families. They did not know in what County they lived. They did not pay taxes; perform military duty; or work roads. A few of them could read. They received Tracts with avidity, and hailed the presence of a minister with joy.

In a neighborhood in which they had no regular Sabbath preaching, the people attended with much seriousness to the preaching of your Agent and to the Tracts distributed. In that neighborhood was a gentleman who, previous to my visit, had been all devotion to "the sports of the turf." A few weeks ago, as I visited this neighborhood again, he walked a mile or two with me to tell me what the Lord had done for him and his. "O," said he, "I shall have cause to bless God to all eternity for sending you here." He told me that he became deeply impressed with his own situation, and determined to submit immediately to Jesus. He went home to his family with a deep sense that he had neglected their souls. But how to unfold to them the burden of his mind he knew not. When evening came, he thought he could not again retire with his family without praying with them. After traversing the room for some time, with the Bible in his hand, he thus addressed his family:—"O my wife! O my children! I have neglected your souls. But now I wish to pray with you. I wish you to go with me in the service of the Lord." A few days after, (at Christmas) his daughters were invited to a ball. They answered, "We cannot go." Ah! their father had been praying with them. Now the father, the mother, and the two daughters (all of the family that are of mature years) are rejoicing in a good hope, and are professors of religion. A number of others in the same neighborhood have been brought to the Savior, and have obtained regular preaching.

Frequently, after leaving a neighborhood, I have received letters, informing of the Divine blessing on these humble labors, and requesting my return. One individual wrote me nearly in these words: "I take up my pen with a joyful heart, praising and blessing God that ever he sent you here. I was then crying peace, peace, when sudden destruction was nigh. Afterward I heard you preach from the text, 'To-day, after so long a time, if you will hear his voice, harden not your hearts.' You told me my time had been long; but, bless the Lord, this was *my day*. I trust I have a peace with God that passeth all understanding. I now am enabled to go on my way rejoicing. In a letter received from six ladies in the same county, they say, "We have met this day in order to inform you of the success of your labors. We were in the gall of bitterness and bond of iniquity until you warned us of our danger. We thank God for sending you, and you for coming and leading us in the way everlasting. O, dear Sir, we think there is a great work for you to do in this part of Zion; for the harvest truly is plenteous, but the laborers are few."

It is not the Tract interest alone that is promoted by the labors of your Agents; but the Bible, the Sunday School, and the Temperance cause. In a large number of places, a *Temperance Society* has been formed soon after our Tract operations, and evidently as the result of them.

I called at the house of a rich merchant, where the Minister of the Congregation spent the evening with me. The decanters and other drinking apparatus were soon brought forward. I raised my hands and exclaimed, "*Touch not, taste not, handle not.*" The Minister advocated the temperate use of ardent spirits; but after a free discussion of the subject we dismissed it. A few days after, I saw the Minister. He told me he was convinced—that "*Touch not, taste not, handle not, was best.*" He told me afterward, that, when he went home after our interview, he said to his son, "*Benjamin, go pour that whiskey out of the decanter into the barrel.*" But how they should dispose of the contents of the barrel became the next subject for consideration. This son at first wished to sell it; but he was present at one of our meetings in an adjoining county, where the Temperance cause was again introduced, and returned declaring to his father, that he *did not think it right to sell the whiskey*; and it was left to be converted into vinegar.

The father and two sons began to think of a Temperance Society. They had a meeting, and a Society was formed consisting of five members. That Society has since increased to about one hundred; and within a few miles another Society has been formed.

I have had the opportunity already of laboring in Western Pennsylvania, Western Virginia, Ohio, and Kentucky; and in each state—in each district—which I have visited, I have found evidences of the Divine blessing on Tract distribution. I have seen the Deist weep, while one of your Tracts has been read.

On one occasion, a gentleman hearing my name, inquired of me whether I was the one who distributed Tracts in his neighborhood. I informed him I was. He then related, apparently with deep interest, the revolution produced in his mind by means of the Tract *The Bible of Divine origin*. He told me he had long been a Deist; that when he received that Tract he did not intend to read it, but to hand it to another; but he read it and it had entirely changed his mind in relation to the Bible; that he thought he should never again doubt its authenticity.

When in Kentucky, in a place where they had enjoyed a great revival of religion, I was informed by the Minister that one of the first subjects was brought to the Savior through the instrumentality of the Tract *the Cross of Christ*.

In Maysville, a young lady was awakened by the Tract on *Fashionable Amusements*, who is now a member of an Evangelical Church in that town.

In Newport, Ohio, when forming a Tract Society, an old lady came forward to subscribe, and desired her husband also to give his name as an Annual contributor, saying that *a Tract was the first means of her conversion to God*.

Very frequently, when looking upon the immense fields in the Valley of the Mississippi, white already to harvest, the thought has

been deeply impressed upon my mind, that soon, the Agent, the Committee, the Society, must meet the multitudes of the West at the bar of Christ—I rejoice at having the privilege to-day of seeing the friends who have made so many sacrifices both of labor and money for the West. I have often seen the big tear drop from the manly cheek while an assembly heard what you were doing for them.

I have seen sectarian bigotry withering under the information that an Episcopalian, a Congregationalist, a member of the Reformed Dutch Church, a Presbyterian, and a Baptist, are with one heart engaged in selecting and preparing these Tracts for publication.—The most devoted among the various denominations are rising above the peculiarities of sect, to espouse the cause of God—not of a party—as their cause. This Society has done much to banish sectarian bigotry from the earth, and I trust is destined to do more.

I have seen the immediate fruits of your example, when I have read from your report the pecuniary sacrifices which you have made to supply the wide-spread desolations, not in the Valley of the Mississippi only, but of South America, of the shores of the Mediterranean—of the world—Yes, I have seen suspicion disarmed, when the people have seen the efforts you were making for which you expected no compensation until the resurrection of the just.

You have done much; but much more is still to be done. There are professors of religion, who say, If those who are destitute of the Bible will come and let us know their wants we will supply them. We will give them Tracts, if they will come and ask us for them. But you have better understood the commission of your ascended Master to proclaim the good news to “every creature.”—The Apostles did not wait for the nations to come to Jerusalem to hear the Gospel; but were willing to “go out into the highways and hedges, and compel them to come in.” Your Society have imitated their example. Your Agents have penetrated places seldom visited by ministers. Your Tracts have invited the attention of the people to the Bible. The Bible has invited them to the sanctuary; and there they have been invited to the Savior. This work must not stop until the destitute every where are supplied, or the Lord ceases to bless your labors, and to give you the means of sustaining them.

#### PREMIUMS OFFERED.

A benevolent individual has placed in the hands of the undersigned the sum of \$50, to be awarded by the Rev. James Milnor, D. D. the Hon. Theodore Frelinghuysen, and the Rev. Absalom Peters, to the author of the best Tract showing “*The Importance of the Gospel, its Ministry, its Sabbath, and its Ordinances to the Well-being and Perpetuity of our Free Institutions.*”

The manuscripts must be presented on or before October 1, 1830, and each accompanied with a sealed envelope, containing the name of the writer, which will not be opened except in case of the successful Tract, and should be addressed, (post paid) to

WILLIAM A. HALLOCK,  
144 Nassau-street, New-York.

A premium of \$100 is also offered for an "Essay which shall contain the fullest and most accurate statement of the existing evils of intemperance, and the remedies therefor, considered in their relation to the intemperate themselves, and to society." The manuscripts to be addressed to the Editors of the New-York Observer, New-York, or of the Journal of Humanity, Andover, Mass. on or before the first day of November next.

Also a premium of \$50, for the Tract which shall be deemed best adapted to *exert a religious influence upon young men in College*. The manuscripts are to be addressed, free of expense, to Rev. S. H. Cox, D. D. or Rev. J. M. Mathews, D. D. New-York, by the first of September next

### RECEIPTS INTO THE TREASURY OF THE AMERICAN TRACT SOCIETY,

From May 1, to May 15, 1830.

Note.—The Receipts from April 16 to May 1, are omitted in this list, being acknowledged in the Fifth Annual Report.

FROM AUXILIARY TRACT SOCIETIES.		For Tr.	Don.
MASS.—Boston, Amer. Tract Soc. John Tappan, Esq. Tr.		31 00	
Westfield, Fem., Mrs. Sally G. Post, Tr.		3 08	
CONN.—Bethel, Fem., Mrs. Hannah Starr, Sec.		2 75	
Brooklyn, (Windham Co. Aux.) Edwin Newbury, Ag.		15 00	
Colchester, Col. Guy Bigelow, Tr.		1 00	
Danbury, Horace Ball, Tr.		9 87	
Ellsworth, Fem., Mary E. Gridley, Pres.		9 00	6 00
Jewett City, Fem., Mrs. Maria P. Morgan, Sec.		7 50	2 50
New Britain, in Berlin, Fem.			12 84
Salem, New-London Co. Fem., Mrs. Sally Hyde, Ag.			2 00
Southbury, Rev. Thomas L. Shipman, Ag.		5 12	
Torrington, Alpheus Hodges, Sec.		2 75	2 25
Winchester Centre, Hiram Church, Tr.		10 49	5 91
NEW-YORK.—Athens, Fem., Mrs. Elizabeth Read, Tr.		5 00	7 50
Bainbridge, Fem. Mrs. Cynthia Munger, Tr.		6 37	
Bedford, Fem., Mrs. Susan S. Nichols, Sec.		12 75	4 25
Bethlehem, Orange Co. Robert Dennison, Tr.		9 68	
Canandaigua, Fem., Mrs. E. M. Hubbell, Tr.		28 63	
Cherry Valley, Rev. Alexander McCowan, Sec.		5 00	
East Granville, Fem., Mrs. Lucy Savage, Sec.		5 25	1 75
Fishkill Landing, Fem., Miss M. W. Teller, Sec.		4 00	
Florida, Dr. H. K. Chapman, Tr.		1 00	
Fort Covington, Rev. J. A. Savage, Sec.		2 00	
Fredonia, Abijah Young, Tr.		19 00	4 00
Galen, Wayne Co. Fem., Mrs. B. F. Pratt, Pres.			3 00
Greenville, Greene Co. Fem., Mrs. Betsey Woodbridge,		8 26	
Homer, Rev. John Keep, Tr.		79 06	
Hopewell, Dutchess Co. Fem., Mrs. Ann Swortwout, Tr.		14 44	4 81
Jamaica, L. I. Marvin W. Fox, Sec.		90	30
Livonia, Fem., Mrs. A. E. Stow, Tr.		3 89	1 91
Mount Morris, Fem., Mrs. Lucretia C. Sleeper, Sec.		8 50	
Owego, (Tioga Co. Aux.) E. Jury Dist. Col. C. B. Pixley, Tr.		16 00	
Peru, Fem., Harriet Wells, Ag.		4 50	1 50
Portland, Chataque Co. Timothy Judson, Sec.		43	
Smyrna, Fem., Mrs. Asenath Avery, Ag.			1 00
Troy, Charles Lyman, Tr.		20 00	
Utica, Edward Vernon, Sec.		25 00	
West Farms, Juv. George St. John, Tr.		1 68	
NEW-JER.—Baskingridge, Horace Sheldon, Sec.		4 74	
Flemington & Amwell, E. R. Johnson, Tr.		3 00	
Greenwich, Warren Co. Fem., Mrs. Mary Robbins, Tr.		20 00	
Harlingen, Fem., Mary Skillman, Tr.		7 00	
Lyons Farms, Fem., Miss Mary Meeker, Sec.		5 00	
Mendham, Fem., Miss Ruth Dayton, Tr.		2 50	2 50
Orange, Allen Dodd, Tr.		4 60	
Scott's Mountain, Warren Co. Braest Mans, Tr.		5 00	

	For Tr.	Don.
Stillwater, Fem., Mrs. Sarah Wintermoot, Tr.	3 00	
PENN.—Hartford, Samuel E. Kingsbury, Tr.	4 00	
Montrose, Jerre Lyon, Tr.	32 00	
MD.—Worcester Co. Fem., Miss Maria E. Bredell, Sec.	18 37	
VIR.—Prince Edward Un. Theol. Sem. Aristides S. Smith, Sec.	20 00	
N. CAR.—Elizabethtown, Bladen Co. Fem., Mrs. Jane Wright, Sec.	10 00	
GEO.—Augusta, Francis M. Robertson, Sec.	150 00	
Lawrenceville, Fem., Juliet Wilson, Sec.	10 00	
TENN.—Knoxville, James Park, Esq. Tr.	17 50	
OHIO.—Cincinnati, Henry B. Funk, Tr.	175 00	
Cleveland, Thomas Davis, Tr.	21 00	
Elyria, (Lorain Co. Aux.) Rev. Daniel W. Lathrop, Sec.	19 36	
Granville, Rev. Jacob Little, Pres.	50 00	
Wakeman, Huron Co. Rev. X. Betts, Ag.	3 00	
ARK. TER.—Little Rock, Fem. Mrs. A. I. Crittenden, Sec.	5 00	
SOCIETY NOT AUXILIARY.		
NEW-YORK.—New Utrecht, Fem. Bib. Miss. & Tract Soc. Mrs. Catharine Knapp, Tr.	4 86	
Tracts sold at the Depository to individuals, (including \$50 remitted by Rev. O. Eastman, Ag.)	101 00	
<i>Directors for Life.</i>		
CONN.—Goshen, Rev. Grant Powers, by his Ch & Cong.	50 00	
NEW-YORK.—Bloomington Grove, Orange Co. Ezekiah Howell, Esq. (in part of \$50.)	10 00	
N. JERSEY.—Lebanon, Rev. Jacob J. Schultz, by Ladies, (in part of \$50.)	2 75	
<i>Members for Life.</i>		
MASS.—Manchester, Rev. Saml. M. Emerson, by Ladies,	20 00	
Faxton, Rev. Cyrus W. Conant,	20 00	
CONN.—Hartford, Charles Bliss, (in part of \$20.)	10 00	
Lisbon, Dea. William Adams, (in part of \$20.)	6 00	
" Eunice Averill, Do.	6 00	
" Daniel Braman, Do.	6 00	
" Mary Ann Branch by Sabina Branch, Do.	5 00	
" Dea. Levi Crosby, Do.	5 00	
" Elisha Morgan, Do.	5 00	
" Silas Read, Do.	4 00	
Plainfield, Erastus Lester, Esq. (in part of \$20.)	5 00	
Sterling Rev. Otis Lane, by Ladies of Sterling & Voluntary,	20 00	
NEW-YORK.—Bloomington Grove, Orange Co. Mrs. Frances Howell, (in full of \$20.)	5 00	
David H. Moffat, (in full of \$20.)	12 00	
Joseph Moffat,	20 00	
Durham, Dennis Baldwin, (in full of \$20.)	15 00	
East Granville, Mrs. Sarah H. Savage, by F.A.T.S. (in full of \$20.)	7 00	
Montgomery, Orange Co. Hannah M. Condit, by her father, Rev. R. W. Condit, (in part of \$20.)	10 00	
New-York City, Henry S. Mulligan, by his father, William C. Mulligan, Esq.	30 00	
Schoharie, Schoharie Co. Mrs. Angelica Weidman, by Ladies of Rev. Mr. Weidman's Society,	20 00	
Sherburne, Zaccheus W. Elmore,	20 00	
Westtown, Orange Co. Rev. Christopher Cory, by Ladies,	20 09	
TENN.—Greenville, Rev. F. A. McCorkie, by citizens of Greenville and vicinity	20 00	
<i>Annual Members.</i>		
R. ISL.—Providence, Col. Alexander Jones,	2 00	
CONN.—Farmington, Henry L. Bidwell,	2 00	
Greenwich, Miss Laura Howe,	2 00	
NEW-YORK.—New-York City, Lewis Tibbous,	2 00	
<i>Other Donations.</i>		
MAINE.—Gorham, Samuel Clark,	1 66	
MASS.—Haverhill, Miss Rebecca Marsh,	1 50	
CONN.—Bridgewater, two Lad's,	1 00	
Norwich, William C. Gilman, Esq.	25 00	
NEW-YORK.—Cooperstown, Dr. Thomas Fuller,	3 00	
Genoa, Cayuga Co. Miss Cyrene Isaacs, (deceased,) a Legacy,	25 00	
Livonia, Livingston Co. Miss Maria Beecher, for Tracts for Greece,	4 00	
Manheim, Herkimer Co. Luther Pardee,	1 00	
New-York City, W. Williams,	89	
N.JER.—Newark, "W. W."	50 00	
PENN.—Gilgal, Indiana Co. Oh. and Congregation,	2 00	
The above list contains donation—		
For Tracts for Greece,	4 00	
Whole amount of Donations	\$540 91	
Received for Tracts sold,	1,145 42	
Total,	\$1,686 33	

# THE AMERICAN Tract Magazine.

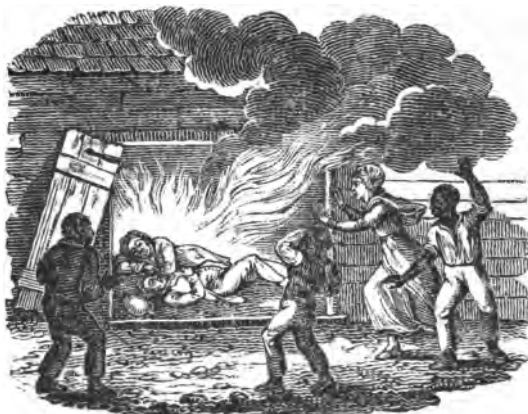
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JULY, 1830.

[NO. 7.

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See Tract No. 112, Peter and John Hay.

(CIRCULAR.)

## NEW PRICES AND DISCOUNTS

ADOPTED BY THE

### AMERICAN TRACT SOCIETY.

It is the object of the EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE AMERICAN TRACT SOCIETY, in this document, to lay before the Branches and Auxiliaries, supporters and friends of the Society, a *New System of Prices and Discounts* at which the Society's Publications will hereafter be sold, with the reasons for its adoption. They will first state the

*System of Prices and Discounts hitherto adopted and now laid aside.*

The price of the duodecimo Tracts, embracing the principal part of the Society's Publications, has been one cent for 10 pages; the covers of 8 page Tracts being counted as 2 pages each, and the covers of all larger Tracts being not counted, and of course gratis.

The discounts made on all the Society's Publications have been as  
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follows: to Benevolent Institutions, and to individuals purchasing for gratuitous distribution, or to sell again, 10 per cent. discount; to Auxiliaries contributing one-fourth part of their funds as a donation, 20 per cent. discount; and to some large Branches and Auxiliaries, owning Depositories from which minor Auxiliaries are supplied, a still larger discount has been made by a special vote of the Committee.

The embarrassments growing out of this system of operation, and which have led the Committee to the adoption of the change herein announced, are chiefly the following: viz.

1. A large portion of those who co-operate with the Society, especially in the more distant and destitute parts of the country, either do not understand the practical operation of the system of giving 20 per cent. discount to Auxiliaries, and at the same time requiring one-fourth part of their funds as a donation, or, if they understand it, do not see the propriety of its adoption; while, at the same time, it introduces much perplexity in the details of the operations of all Auxiliaries.

2. This part of the system bears very unequally on Auxiliaries in destitute parts of the country, which need to have the whole amount of their funds returned to them in Tracts, compared with Auxiliaries in places abounding in means, many of which it is desirable should contribute more than one-fourth part of their funds as a donation.

3. The giving of so large discounts to Branches and Auxiliaries, necessarily prevents the Society from affording its Publications at as low a rate as is desirable, to that portion of the community not entitled to a discount; while, at the same time, the large discounts, in connexion with the facts that so large a portion of the covers are gratis, renders the nominal price of the Society's Publications so much greater than the amount received in the sales, as to convey an erroneous impression of the rate at which they are actually afforded. The selling of Tracts at 20 per cent. discount from the rate of 10 pages for a cent, is equivalent to selling 12½ pages for a cent, and this rate of discount is somewhat less than the average discount hitherto made by the Society on all its Publications. Add to this the fact, that of the whole number of pages of Tracts and covers issued by the Society, previous to May 1, 1829, 21 4-10 per cent. were covers; and that of the whole number of pages of Tracts and covers, 17 3-10 per cent. have been covers not counted, and gratis, in the mode in which the sales have hitherto been conducted; and it appears that, while the Society has nominally been selling 1000 pages for a dollar, it has actually sold, taking into view the discounts and the covers, all its duodecimo Tracts, on an average, since the time of its formation, at the rate of about 1500 *pages of Tracts and covers for a dollar.*

The Committee, in the adoption of the system of prices and discounts now to be submitted to the Christian community, not only hope to obviate some of the principal embarrassments above alluded to, but they have felt warranted, by the present reduction in the cost of the materials and mechanical labor employed by the Society, to afford its Publications, on an average throughout the country, at prices considerably reduced.

*System of Prices and Discounts now adopted.*

1. Useful matter will, as soon as it can be prepared, be printed on both sides of the covers of the duodecimo Tracts; and as the expense of issuing each cover somewhat exceeds the expense of issuing a Tract of 4 pages, *each cover will, from and after the present time, be counted as four pages* in the sales. This method of counting the covers, in connexion with a change in the system of discounts, will enable the Committee, while they increase the number of pages sold for a cent, to determine on a number which will be of convenient use—a point which all who are conversant with the detail of Tract sales will see to be indispensable. By this method of counting covers, the prices of the Tracts of different sizes will also bear essentially an equal relation to their cost; and should it, at any future time, be thought desirable to omit the covers on any of the smaller Tracts, no derangement will be thereby occasioned in the system of prices now adopted.

2. The price of the Society's duodecimo Tracts, each cover being counted as 4 pages, will be, throughout the country, from and after the present time, *one cent for fifteen pages*; and the prices of its other Publications as in the accompanying schedule.\*

3. *Discounts will be made only to large Branches and Auxiliaries having Depositories from which minor Auxiliaries are supplied.* The doing away of all other discounts will greatly simplify the Tract operations of the country; and, in connexion with the consequent increase of the number of pages afforded for a given sum, will especially advance the interests of the more distant and destitute portions, which have hitherto been, to a great extent, supplied at the rate of 10 pages for a cent, without discount. The expenses to which large Branches and Auxiliaries, owning Depositories, are subjected for *freight*, and in several of our principal cities and towns for *rent and agency*, are necessarily large; and while they must, in no small degree, be sustained by donations from the places where such Depositories are located, the Committee believe that to afford a discount to aid in sustaining such Depositories at the principal commercial centres through-

\* See cover.

out the country, will further the general interests of the Tract cause, and is essential to the carrying into effect of a primary principle in the Society's Constitution ; that " the prices of its Tracts shall be, as far as practicable, the same in all parts of the United States."

4. In the language of the Society's Constitution, as amended at the last Anniversary, "*Any Tract Society annually contributing a donation from its funds to the Treasury of this Society, may be considered an Auxiliary.*" While this provision of the Constitution has been made to obviate embarrassments which have hitherto existed, especially in distant and destitute portions of the country, the increasing claims upon the Parent Institution demand that *the aggregate amount of donations from its Auxiliaries should be by no means diminished, but rather greatly increased*; and such, the Committee trust, in the expanding benevolence which the Holy Spirit has awakened in the followers of the Redeemer, will be the actual result. The openings which, in Providence, are spread before the Society for gratuitous distributions in the great Valley of the Mississippi and other destitute parts of our country and the world; the necessity of adding, from time to time, to the number of its Publications, and of sustaining a general Depository from which supplies on sale may at all times be obtained, particularly for the systematic and stated distributions now extensively adopted; the necessity of frequently giving short credits to feeble Auxiliaries in destitute places; and the fact, that the Publications of the Society, as the nature of the Institution demands, are sold "AT COST"—all conspire to show that increased and liberal donations to the Society are indispensable to the vigorous prosecution of its great and important work. For a large part of these donations it depends on its Auxiliaries; nor can the Committee believe they will be less abundant, or permanent, or useful, or acceptable to God, because they will hereafter be the *free and voluntary appropriations* of those who love the cause.

5. Life and Annual Directors will be entitled to receive, annually, 3000 pages of Tracts, or such of the other Publications of the Society as they prefer, to the value of two dollars; and Life and Annual Members to receive, annually, 1500 pages of Tracts, or other Publications, to the value of one dollar; and may draw the same directly from this Society, or from any of its Branches or Auxiliaries which have Depositories.

6. All Publications drawn from the Depositories of Branches and Auxiliaries, by Directors or Members of the Parent Society, or by authorized Agents in the name of the Parent Society, may be charged to the Parent Society at their nominal price, without any discount.

By the above system of Prices and Discounts, the Society will sell as many more than 1500 pages of Tracts and covers for a dollar, on an average throughout the country, as shall equal the whole amount of discounts made to Branches and Auxiliaries owning Depositories, which will increase the average quantity sold for a dollar to not far from 1700 pages.

The Committee would refer to the Society's Fifth Annual Report, now in the press, for numerous additional statements relative to the cost of the Society's Publications, and the principles on which all its pecuniary concerns are transacted. It has been their sole endeavor, unless their own hearts deceive them, so to discharge the responsible trust committed to them in this eventful period of the church and the world, as shall render the Society the most extensively useful in view of our relations to God and eternity. To His smiles and blessing, and to the approbation and Christian confidence of all who love and co-operate in this cause, do the Committee commend the measures herein announced; praying that they may be the means of exciting many to greater activity in this work; of increasing the number of Publications dispersed; and of bringing a higher revenue of praise to our Divine Redeemer, in the salvation, through his grace, of increased multitudes of our dying fellow-men.

By order of the Executive Committee.

S. V. S. WILDER, *Pres. of the Soc.*

WILLIAM A. HALLOCK, *Corresponding Sec.*

*New-York, June, 1830.*

☞ The schedule of prices above referred to, and the form of the Constitution of an Auxiliary as now revised by the Committee, will be found on the cover of this Number of the Magazine.

#### SIXTEENTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BRANCH AMERICAN TRACT SOCIETY, BOSTON.

The Sixteenth Anniversary of this Society was held in Park-street Church, May 26. The President,

HON. WILLIAM REED,

in the Chair. The Rev. James L. Kimball having resigned the office of Secretary last fall, the Executive Committee filled the vacancy of that time by the appointment of Mr. Walter Follett, who was now selected to the office.

The meeting was opened with prayer by the Rev. Thomas Shepard, of Ashfield. The Annual Report of the Executive Committee was read by the Secretary. The following resolutions were then adopted:

*Resolved*, That this Meeting learn with pleasure the increased interest which has been taken in the circulation of religious Tracts, in consequence of the *systematic monthly distribution*.

*Resolved*, That a judicious and liberal distribution of religious Tracts is a powerful means of checking the progress of vice and error, and of correcting the moral and religious sentiments of the community.

*Resolved*, That this meeting feel a deep and increasing sense of their dependance on God, and the necessity of more fervent prayer for the Holy Spirit to accompany the publications of this Society.

The Meeting was addressed by Rev. Mr. M'Aboy, of Athens, Ohio, one of the Agents of the American Tract Society at New-York, in the Valley of the West; Rev. Mr. Cleaveland, of Salem; Rev. Mr. Holmes, of New-Bedford; and Rev. Mr. Green, of Boston.

#### ABSTRACT OF THE REPORT.

The amount of Tracts circulated, in *what is now the Society's field of labor*, has been greater than in any former year. Sold at the General Depository, 6,332,800 pages; delivered to Life Members 298,720 pages; circulated gratuitously 1,234,348 pages; whole amount 7,865,868 pages.

In addition to the above donations, \$196 88 have been appropriated for the circulation of Tracts in the Western States, and \$183 00 to publish and circulate Tracts among the Jews.

#### STATE OF THE FUNDS.

<i>Received</i> , from May 12, 1829, to May 12, 1830,	
For Tracts, Tract Magazine, and Christian Almanacs, . . . . .	\$5,625 08
Donations from Auxiliaries and individuals, . . . . .	1,905 65
From Life Members, . . . . .	774 00
Collected at Annual Meeting, May, 1829, . . . . .	141 61
For Rent from Mass. Sabbath School Union, . . . . .	95 00
Balance in the Treasury at the last Annual Meeting, including Woodman's Legacy, . . . . .	2,342 18
<b>Total,</b> . . . . .	<b>\$11,103 06</b>
<i>Paid</i> , during the year, ending May 12, 1830, . . . . .	\$9,694 07
Balance in the Treasury, including the indisposable part of the Woodman Fund, . . . . .	1,477 99
<b>Total,</b> . . . . .	<b>11,103 06</b>

Seventy new Auxiliaries have been formed during the year, about 250 visited and revived by Agents. Three new Depositories have been established, one of which is in Hamsted, Lower Canada—Canada begins to invite effort. Whole number of Auxiliaries about 672.

Perhaps the most interesting feature in the operations of the Society during the last year, is the *system* which has been adopted for the circulation of Tracts—the *system of a monthly distribution*. There is nothing which has given so much prominence to the Society, and set it before the community with such a definite object in view. It enlists the feelings and active efforts of Christians wherever they have been made acquainted with it.

The Committee have taken a deep interest in this system, and recommend it to the Auxiliaries. They have the satisfaction to know that it is becoming extensively adopted. Between 60 and 70 Auxiliaries have it in successful operation, and as many more have taken measures to effect it, whose progress has not yet been reported. There

can be but little, if any, doubt that this is the system by which Tracts will ultimately be distributed among all the Society's Auxiliaries.

Though it is but a few months since the plan was adopted by any of the Auxiliaries of this Society, interesting reports of its success are almost daily received. The report from one town says that "the religious society has been greatly increased in consequence of it;" from another, that "the sanctuary has been more fully attended since it was adopted;" from another, that "the minister acknowledges its great assistance in his parochial visits;" from two others, that "temperance societies have grown out of it; from another, that "the Sabbath School and Bible Class have both been greatly increased, several intemperate men reclaimed, and the Temperance Society strengthened by its aid;" from still another, that of 500 families only *two* are known to refuse the Tracts; and from all the towns which have reported their success, that the effects are most happy.

### THIRD ANNIVERSARY OF THE

### PENNSYLVANIA BRANCH, PHILADELPHIA.

The 3d Anniversary of the Pennsylvania Branch of the American Tract Society was celebrated in the 7th Presbyterian Church, Philadelphia, on Friday, May 28, 1830, at 8 o'clock, P. M. The President, THOMAS LATTIMER, Esq. took the Chair.

The Meeting was opened with Prayer, by the Rev. Thomas M'Auley, D. D.

The Treasurer, Mr. Frederick Erringer, read the Report of the state of the Treasury, and the Corresponding Secretary read the Annual Report of the Executive Committee.

The following resolutions were then unanimously adopted.

On motion of the Rev. Mr. Wisner, of Ithaca, N. Y., seconded by the Rev. N. Murray, of Wilkesbarre, Pa.

*Resolved*, That the Report now read be accepted and printed, under the direction of the Board.

On motion of the Rev. William J. Armstrong, of Richmond, Va., seconded by Rev. B. B. Smith, of the Episcopal Church,

*Resolved*, That the success which has hitherto attended the monthly distribution of Tracts to every family willing to receive them, demands increased exertion to carry it into universal effect.

On motion of the Rev. Dr. Edwards, of Boston, seconded by the Rev. Mr. M'Abby, of the Baptist Church, Agent of the American Tract Society in the Valley of the West.

*Resolved*, That the principles on which this Society is founded, and the good which it is adapted to accomplish ought to commend it to the vigorous efforts and fervent prayers of all within its bounds.

The Meeting was addressed by the Rev. Messrs. Wisner, Armstrong, Smith, Edwards, and M'Abby. The audience was larger than usual, and a feeling of deep interest appeared to pervade the meeting in favor of renewed efforts to extend the influence of the Tract system, and particularly of this Branch.

The Benediction was pronounced by the Rev. Dr. M'Auley.

## STATE OF THE FUNDS.

<i>Received, for Tracts sold, including donations from Societies</i>	
Auxiliary to the Branch,	\$4,862 05
Life Directors and Members,	688 00
Total,	\$5,550 05
<i>Paid, during the year, to the American Tract Society,</i>	
Printing,	\$3,578 28
General Agent, Assistant, and incidental expenses,	490 05
Travelling Agents,	1,944 85
For books sold on commission last year,	598 64
Total,	\$5,557 86
Tracts sold the last year,	4,437,890 pages.
Total Tracts circulated since the formation of the Society,	15,743,800 pages.

## SOUTH CAROLINA BRANCH.

The Fourth Anniversary of this Society was held April 7, at the Depository in Chalmers Street. The President, THOMAS LEGARE, Esq. in the chair. After prayer by the Rev. Dr. McDowell, the Annual report was read by the Corresponding Secretary, Rev. Joseph Brown. Resolutions were then offered and adopted, among which was the following: viz.

*Resolved*, That this meeting regard the constant improvement in the character and variety of Religious Tracts, the recent plan of adding a Monthly Distribution to the methods previously devised for their circulation, and the immense good they are obviously effecting, as furnishing the most powerful motives to united, general and untiring efforts in this important cause.

The Meeting was addressed by the Rev. A. White of Johns Island, Rev. U. Powers of Cheraw, Thomas S. Grimke, Esq. and Rev. Joseph Brown.

Receipts, during the year, \$915. Distributed gratuitously 119,140 pages. Edition of Christian Almanac issued, 8,000. The System of Monthly Distribution has been efficiently prosecuted in Charleston 3 months, with less difficulty and more pleasure than was anticipated. The Society has 46 Auxiliaries, one of which reports that a man had been influenced by the Tract *Evils of Excessive Drinking* to abandon his cup, and another by the *Smoker's Prayer* to cease his profaneness. Rev. JOHN DICKSON, Agent, Depository Rooms, Chalmers Street.

## CINCINNATI BRANCH.

The Third Anniversary of this Society was held May 25, Rev. B. F. AYDELOTT, one of the Vice Presidents, in the Chair. After prayer by the Rev. Dr. Wilson, Mr. Henry B. Funk, the Treasurer, read an abstract of his report; and the Annual Report of the Board was read by Rev. Ornan Eastman, General Agent of the American Tract Society for the Western States.

The following resolutions were then unanimously adopted:

*Resolved*, That the American Tract Society and other similar institutions of the day, in which christians of different denominations are engaged, are powerful auxiliaries to the faithful preaching of the gospel, in extending the Redeemer's kingdom.

*Resolved*, That the rapid increase of population in this western country, admonishes the patriot and the christian to be vigilant in developing and executing every suitable measure to extend moral or religious instruction.

*Resolved*, That the system of giving one religious Tract, monthly, to each family in this city, meets our approbation, and that we deem it of great importance to extend it throughout the land.

The meeting was addressed in an interesting and impressive manner, by Rev. Dr. Wilson, Rev. Mr. Finley of the Methodist Church, Rev. Mr. Gallaher, and Rev. Ornan Eastman.

Receipts, during the year, \$2,624.67. Amount of Tracts sold, 2,641,110 pages; gratuitously distributed 275,240 pages; total circulated, 2,916,359 pages. Depository, West 4th St. near Main St. ROBERT BOAL, JUN. Agent.

### MOBILE TRACT SOCIETY.

This Society was formed about one year since, by Messrs. Vail and Case, Agents of the American Tract Society. By the First Annual Report it appears, that the total amount of receipts during the year is \$1069 50. During the year, there were received from the Parent Society, 886,000 pages of Tracts, 666,000 of which were sent to Auxiliaries, and 170,000 pages distributed in that city and vicinity.

### THE MISSOURI AND ILLINOIS BRANCH

Held its Third Anniversary in Saint Louis, April 2. After prayer by Rev. William P. Cochran, it was, among other resolutions,

*Resolved*, That this Society recommend to its Auxiliaries, the monthly distribution of one Tract to every family, so far as practicable.

The Meeting was addressed in an eloquent and feeling manner, by Dr. G. W. Call, Mr. Allen, Mr. Grosvenor, and the Rev. W. S. Potts; and the exercises were closed with the performance, by the Choir of the Church, of the beautiful Anthem, "Strike the Cymbal."

Receipts during the year, \$603.01. Circulated 340,106 pages, and 2,161 copies of the Christian Almanac. The Society has 15 Auxiliaries. We regret, that our limits permit no further extracts from the report.

### WINCHESTER, VA. TRACT SOCIETY.

Third Anniversary held April 7, in the Episcopal Church. Rev. J. E. JACKSON, President, in the chair. Prayer by Rev. Dr. Hill. After the reading of the Annual Report, the Meeting was addressed by Mr. Andrews of Vaucuse, Rev. Dr. Hill, Mr. Davis, Mr. Murphy, and Rev. L. Eichelberger. Copies of the Report and four of the above addresses have been forwarded, which, in the absence of other matter, would have in a very interesting manner filled the present number of our Magazine. Circulated, during the year, 236,374 pages Tracts, 841 bound volumes, and 4,749 Children's Tracts and other publications. Amount remitted by the Society during the year for publications \$825.80. The value of the capital stock in the Depository is \$343.63; and the fact that *this whole capital has been twice sold out during the year*, affords the best evidence of the Society's activity. Mr. DANIEL GOLD, Agent.



### A NEW TRACT WANTED.

We need, in this State, says a Clergyman in Missouri, a Tract, on the *Accountability of man for his Belief*. It is common to hear professed friends of the Gospel declaring that it is *no matter what a man believes, so that he is sincere*.

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### OTHER SUBJECTS FOR NEW TRACTS.

Permit me, says an able writer, to suggest subjects for some additional Tracts that we need.

One might be entitled, "*My Mother*," showing what a hold a mother can take of the conscience of her child.

Another might be, "*The Idler*," showing how much is lost by losing time.

Another, "*The House of God Explored*," showing the varied characters and motives of a Sabbath Day audience.

Another, "*Honesty the best Policy*," showing how much men suffer, and how egregiously they sin, and how much less good they do, by not being strictly honest.

Another, "*The Whole Christian*," showing that the believer should not be destitute of any one of the right affections.

Another, "*The Blossoms, the ripening Fruit, and the Autumn of Vice*."

Another, "*The Backbiter*." Why is this sin let alone?

Another, "*Decision of Christian Character*." The want of this diminishes, incalculably, the aggregate strength of Zion.

Another, "*He came nigh, and was lost*," showing how and why God brings his kingdom nigh to many who are finally lost.

Another, "*Let your lips keep truth*," showing the many ways in which men falsify the truth.

Another, "*The Trimmer*," showing the mischief a faint-hearted professor may do to the cause of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Why not multiply Tracts till we can suit every case, as we have the Tippler, Sabbath-Breaker, Swearer, &c. We may thus send the whole Gospel, where the living preacher cannot go.

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### MUCH GOOD DONE WITH SMALL MEANS.

An excellent Clergyman of Virginia, being a Life Director of the American Tract Society, some months since obtained 2 dollars' worth of "Doddridge's Rise and Progress" from the Depository in Winchester. These he sold to individuals of his congregation and neighborhood, at the Society's prices. With the proceeds he purchased a new supply, which were disposed of in the same manner; and thus he has already 30 or 40 families supplied, and the money is still going its benevolent round.

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A gentleman, under the signature of "LEIGH RICHMOND," who last autumn gave \$50, in part for perpetuating *The Young Cottager*, has recently enclosed \$50 more, saying that, should God prosper him in his business, he will remit the remaining \$80 in the course of the year.

## RECEIPTS

## INTO THE TREASURY OF THE AMERICAN TRACT SOCIETY,

*During the month ending June 15, 1850.*

FROM AUXILIARY TRACT SOCIETIES.		For Tr.	Don.
VER.—Middlebury, Elisha Brewster, Ag.	39 00		
Rutland, A. L. Brown, Sec.	5 00		
MASS.—Boston, American Tract Society, J. Tappan, Esq. Tr. for promoting the cause of Tracts in the Valley of the Mississippi,		196 88	
Otis, Maj. Robert Hunter, Tr.	1 79		
Sandisfield, Russel Morley, Tr.	4 50		1 50
Springfield, Solomon Warriner, Jun. Tr.	21 28		
R. ISL.—Providence, Israel H. Day, Sec.	30 00		
CONN.—Brooklyn, (Windham co. Aux.,) Edwin Newbury, Ag.	10 00		
Green's Farms, Edward Hyde, Ag.	3 50		1 00
Guilford, Henry E. Hodges, Ag.	3 20		
New-Haven, A. Townsend, Jun. Tr.	54 56		
Sharon, Charles F. Sedgwick, Sec.	4 57		
Wallingford,			1 66
Woodbury, Female, Mrs. Eliza Preston, Ag.	8 70		
N. YORK.—Albany, Central Branch, D. M'Kercher, Sec.	150 51		
Berkshire and Newark, Rev. Marcus Ford, Pres.	9 59		3 19
Clove, Ulster co., Miss E. Bevier, Tr.	1 32		
Cohocton, Steuben co., John Clark, Tr.	8 00		
Columbia in Walton, Del. co., Darius Seely, Sec.	5 25		
Geneva, James Bogart, Tr.	50 00		
Goshen, Orange co., Dr. J. S. Crane, Tr.	3 65		
Harlem, Female, Mrs. Ann Ball, Tr.	50		
Hartwick and Fly Creek, Albert North, Tr.	11 00		6 00
Hempstead, L. I., Robert Eells, Tr.	6 24		
Hudson, Female, H. Root, Sec.	7 00		
Lisle, 1st Society, Norman Marsh, Tr.	5 00		
New-Windsor, Silas Corwin, Tr.	50		
New-York City Tract Society, Alfred Edwards, Tr.	25 00		
Do. by Female Aux. Mrs. J. R. Hurd, Tr.	43 37		
Penn-Yann, Rev. C. Eddy, Ag.	14 00		2 00
Poughkeepsie, Lawrence Van Kleeck, Tr.	13 00		
Poundridge, Fem. Mrs. Hannah L. Keeler, Sec.	7 84		3 91
Rochester, Monroe co., Levi A. Ward, Tr.	100 00		
Schenectady, Isaac Ledyard, Tr.	30 00		
South East, Putnam co. Female, Rosanna Jackson, Sec.	5 12		5 13
Springfield, Otsego co., Col. Lebbeus Loomis, Pres.	15 10		
Troy, Charles Lyman, Tr.	70 00		
Union and Vestal, Peter Mersebau, Tr.	6 42		
Utica, Edward Vernon, Sec.	50 00		
Walton, Del. co., Fem. Miss Hannah N. Seymour, Tr.	5 50		
Whitehall, F. A. Kent, Sec.	11 00		
Windsor, Broome co., Marcus Sage, Tr.	20 00		
N. JER.—Amwell, Fem. Mrs. E. Skillman, Tr.	3 00		1 00
Hardwick Cong. Gratitude, P. O. Fem. Mrs. Rebecca H. Vail, Tr.	3 00		
Jersey City, Female, Mrs. Sarah Olcott, Sec.	3 50		
Perth-Amboy, Fem. Mrs. Margaret Maurice, Tr.	4 00		
Somerville, Fem. Mrs. Sophia Talmage, Tr.	12 75		4 25
White House, in Readingtown, Dr. William Johnson, Sec.	3 38		1 12
PENN.—Dundaff, Dr. William Terbell, Sec.	2 31		
Do. Fem. Mrs. Abby L. Terbell, Sec.	4 92		6 09
Erie, Fem. Mrs. Mary Lyon, Tr.	10 25		
Philadelphia Branch, Rev. Joel T. Benedict, Ag.	500 00		
Pittsburgh, Rev. Robert Patterson, Ag.	10 00		
MD.—Baltimore Branch, James W. Walling, Ag.	255 42		
DIS. COL.—Alexandria, Fem. Mrs. E. S. Ladd, Sec.	35 00		
S. CAR.—Charleston, S. Car. Branch, Rev. J. Dickson, Ag.	100 00		
GEOR.—Ebenszer, Edinham co., Rev. C. F. Bergman, Pres.	8 00		10 00

## FROM AUXILIARY TRACT SOCIETIES.

	For Tr.	Don.
ALA.—Huntsville, Samuel Coltart, Ag.	89 00	
MISS.—Natchez Branch, Thomas Henderson, Tr.	76 26	
KEN.—Danville, Michael G. Youce, Ag.	117 50	
OHIO.—Cleveland, (Cayahoga co. Aux.) Thomas F. Davis, Tr.	6 00	
Delaware, Rev. Henry Van Deman, Ag.	20 00	
Frederick, Knox co., Rev. John M'Kinney, Ag.	30 00	
Marietta, Rev. Luther G. Bingham, Ag.	89 11	
Warren, (Trumbull co. Aux.) Rev. Harvey Coe, Sec.	49 50	
SOCIETIES NOT AUXILIARY.		
N. YORK.—Burlington, Benevolent Association,		75
Middlefield, do.		26
Orange co. S. School Union,	2 35	
Smithville, Jefferson co., Rev. Mr. Jenks, Ag.	10 66	
Windham, Mrs. Elizabeth B. Strong, Tr.	2 50	
N. JER.—Elizabethtown, Un. Tr. Soc. J. J. Bryant, Tr.	7 00	
Paterson, 2d. Reformed Dutch Ch. James Moore, Sec.	3 00	
L. CAN.—Montreal, Rev. G. W. Perkins, Ag.	20 00	
Tracts sold at the Depository to individuals,	315 63	

## Directors for Life.

N. YORK.—Albany, Hon. S. Van Rensselaer, (in part for perpetuating the Pilgrim's Progress,	\$100 00
VIR.—Old Concord, Campbell co., Rev. Isaac Cochran, by Congregation of Little Concord, Charlotte co.	50 00

## Members for Life.

VER.—Brownington, Rev. A. L. Twilight, by a friend,	20 00
MASS.—Amherst, Henry Keyes Eastman, by Jonathan Eastman, Esq. New-York,	20 00
CONN.—New-London, Miss Mary Cecilia Law, by two friends,	20 00
N. YORK.—Durham, Greene co., Mrs. Eudasia Boothe, (in part of \$20.)	5 00
Newark, Rev. Marcus Ford, by Ladies,	20 00
New-York City, Mrs. Frances M'Comb,	30 00
Orangeville, Genesee co., Rev. Warren Day, by himself, (in full of \$20.)	7 00
South Salem, Thomas Mead,	20 00
Windham, Broome co., Mrs. Elizabeth B. Strong, by Mr. Austin Strong, (in full of \$20.)	10 00
N. JER.—Hanover, N. P. Thomas, by Legacy of Elizabeth C. Thomas,	20 00
Do. William H. Thomas, by do.	20 00
MISS.—Natchez, Rev. J. Van Court,	20 00
LOU.—Baton Rouge, Mrs. H. Buhler, by Fem. A. T. S.	20 60

## Annual Members.

N. YORK.—New-York City, Mrs. Helen Noe,	2 00
N. JER.—Portland, Miss Ann Ustick,	2 00

## Other Donations.

MASS.—Oakham, Rev. Andrew H. Reed,	1 50
Otis, Isaac Hunter, 37 cts. David Spear 50 cts.	87
CONN.—Coventry, Gad Page,	1 00
N. YORK.—New-York City, Moses Allen, and Richard T. Haines, avails of horse and wagon,	58 75
A Friend, \$1, Chabrier Peloubet, for Val. Miss. \$2,	3 00
Owego, Tioga county, William Platt, Esq.	10 00
N. JER.—Hanover, William O. Ford,	5 00
Milstone, John C. Demund,	6 00
ALA.—Whitesburg, Madison co., Mrs. Elizabeth Gardiner,	1 00
LOU.—Concordia, Dr. Kerr,	5 00
Ibberville Parish, P. Winfree, Esq. \$5, Cash \$1,	6 00

The above list contains donations for promoting the cause of Tracts in the Valley of the Mississippi, \$199 88

In part, for perpetuating "Bunyan's Pilgrim's Progress," 100 00

Whole amount of Donations, \$799 44  
Received for Tracts sold, 2,648 05

Total, \$3,377 49

# THE AMERICAN Tract Magazine.

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VOL. V.]

AUGUST, 1830.

[NO. 8.

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See Tract No. 234, Advantages of Prayer.

## THE CHANGE IN PRICES AND DISCOUNTS.

We have prepared the following *summary statement* of the change made by this Society in their system of prices and discounts, and of the reasons for its adoption, from a belief that it will be acceptable to many friends of the Tract cause.

The *system now adopted* is to count each cover of the duodecimo Tracts as 4 pages, and sell 15 pages for a cent; and to sell the other publications of the Society at the new prices fixed in the Society's list, all without any discount, except to Branches and Auxiliaries owning Depositories from which their Auxiliaries are supplied with Tracts; and the discounts to these to be greater, or less, as their distance from the General Depository shall increase their expense for freight, and as the magnitude of their operations shall increase their expense for rent and permanent agency. The terms of admitting Auxiliaries were.

by an amendment of the Society's Constitution at the last anniversary, so changed, that "any Tract Society annually contributing a donation from its funds to the Treasury of the Parent Institution shall be considered an Auxiliary;" and Branches and Auxiliaries having Depositories admit their Auxiliaries on the same terms.

The *principal evil remedied* by the change, is the doing away of the complex, and to many quite unintelligible system of requiring one fourth part of the funds of Auxiliaries as a donation, and at the same time allowing them a discount of 20 per cent. These were the terms equally to the most flourishing Auxiliary in the older states, and to the most feeble Auxiliary in the new settlements.

By the present system it is referred to the option of each Auxiliary, and each member of an Auxiliary, to designate, according to their own ability and sense of duty, what portion of their contribution shall be for Tracts, and what portion a donation; there being appended to the Constitution now recommended for adoption, two columns, one for subscriptions, the full amount of which is to be returned in Tracts, and the other for donations.

The whole system is based on a fundamental article of the Society's Constitution, that "*the prices of its publications shall be, as far as practicable, the same in all parts of the United States,*" and has a most extensive bearing in favor of all the distant and destitute portions of the country. The principle is, that the Society is common cause for the whole of this great community; those who have means sustaining it by donations; and an indigent man on the banks of the Missouri receiving the same amount of publications for a dollar, or a cent, as the man who lives next door to the Society's house, or any one of the Society's officers or members.

The publications of the Society are, by the new system, on an average throughout the country, sold at a considerable reduction from the former prices, which the Committee have considered to be warranted by the existing reduction in the price of the materials and mechanical labor employed; the principle on which the Society's prices are graduated, being to sell its publications "*at cost*;" or, in other words, that the whole amount received into the Society's Treasury for such of the publications as are sold, shall be equal to the whole amount paid for issuing them.

As the cost of each cover fully equals the cost of a Tract of 4 pages, there is a manifest propriety in its being counted 4 pages in the sales, especially as each cover printed, after the change in prices, will contain 4 pages of useful printed matter; but another prominent reason for counting each cover as 4 pages, is, that by so doing the Committee are able to sell more than 10 pages for a cent, and yet fix on a number which is of comparatively convenient use in counting.

Whoever regards intelligently the system of operations adopted, will not fail to see its accordance with the fact, that the Institution is to all intents a Christian charity, which is to be sustained by the donations of the people of God. It is earnestly and confidently hoped that the spirit of benevolence now pervading the Christian community, is such, that the aggregate amount of donations from Auxiliaries will be enhanced rather than diminished by its being referred to each to contribute according to their ability and their sense of duty. Aid in donations is urgently needed at the present hour, and will doubtless continue to be needed as long as the Society is called to act. A great portion of the population of our own country are still unsupplied with Tracts, and it is an occasion of unfeigned grief, that the Society has thus far been able to do no more for South America and the Pagan world.

#### THE MONTHLY TRACT DISTRIBUTION.

Facts and considerations are almost daily presenting themselves to the mind of the careful observer, which show the wisdom of Providence in devising this system of benevolent exertion. It may, indeed, carry a Tract to some who think it unworthy of their rank and station in life to learn the way of salvation from so humble a vehicle of religious knowledge; and to some, who, hardened in impenitence, will receive it with scorn; and to some who, abounding in all the means of grace, and improving them, by the Divine blessing, to their own growth in holiness, and being the almoners of God's bounty to others, may seem not to be fit subjects for a charitable distribution of Divine truth; though few such will consider the monthly Tract unacceptable, or fail of returning fourfold into the Treasury from which it came—but *the great appalling fact* in relation to this subject is, that by all the benevolent but unsystematic efforts hitherto made in the Tract cause, *Tracts have reached but a small part of the population*; and that part, to a great extent, has been the part most blessed with all other means of grace. And we might go on, from year to year, with the same miscellaneous efforts, and do incalculable good, but yet *one half* of the entire population of these United States would probably never receive a religious Tract until their period of probation here on earth is closed.

While we are thus benefiting a part, the command of Christ still sounds in our ears to carry the message of his Gospel and tender it to ALL. Whatever may be our excuses, we cannot evade this command without continual guilt. It is still binding; we now see the duty, and how it may be discharged; and are encouraged by rich blessings attending its faithful performance. The portion of truth presented month after month can scarcely fail of being an object of attention to

those who receive it; the monthly visit of a devoted Christian on an errand for eternity, presenting, with love and kindness, the message of the Gospel at the *fireside* of the entire population, is a spectacle over which angels might rejoice; and the blessing received by the Distributer into his own heart alone outweighs all the sacrifices made.

But we will not enlarge on this topic. We rejoice to see this work going forward; and would invite every active Christian in the land to consider the motives which urge him without delay to bring it into vigorous prosecution in his own vicinity. Far more must be done than has been hitherto, or our solemn obligations in respect to this department of Christian benevolence will never be fulfilled.

### CALL FOR HELP FROM GERMANY.

The moral state of Germany, we fear, is too little known by Christians in this country, and too little remembered in their prayers and efforts. The civil and ecclesiastical authority is almost every where in the hands of Infidels, or Rationalists as they call themselves, and the humble and devout followers of the Lord Jesus Christ suffer oppression and persecution. They are not, however, sitting down in despair; they are rousing to effort, confident that, in the strength of their Divine master, and by the influences of his Holy Spirit, Zion shall yet arise from the dust, even in Germany. They call for the prayers and the active sympathy and aid of all Evangelical Christians.

The corresponding Secretary of the American Tract Society has just received a letter from Mr. J. G. ONCKEN, a member of the Committee of the *Lower Saxony Tract Society*, located at *Hamburgh*, under date of *April, 1830*, stating some of the embarrassments under which they labor, and accompanied by an appeal to British and American Christians for pecuniary aid.

Our Society, says Mr. Oncken, dwindles into nothing when I compare it with the American Tract Society, and yet the Lord has done great things for us when I take into consideration the difficulties which a truly evangelical Tract Society has to overcome in this land of darkness and spiritual bondage. We are opposed both by civil and ecclesiastical power. Most pastors in the Lutheran community are bitterly opposed to the contents of our publications, and use their influence to hinder their circulation where they can; and in several kingdoms their distribution has been strictly prohibited. In many instances, however, these measures have rather been conducive to the furtherance of the Gospel; if God will work, who can hinder it? Our little Society has, notwithstanding its difficulties, prospered from year to year; friends have been raised up who have given us of their gold and silver, and others who have been very zealous to distribute them in all parts of the country. The Lord has owned our feeble work in the conversion of sinners, so that our hearts have been encouraged and our hands strengthened.

During the past year we distributed 260,623 Tracts, and our income amounted to between 5 and 6,000 marks, about 1,500 dollars. If we had had the means, much more might have been effected; the demands for Tracts were, and continue to be, most pressing. The importance of Tract distribution is perhaps no where of such utility as in this country. Here the missionary cannot preach in private houses the glad tidings of salvation, nor even pray or read the Bible with a few persons together, without exposing himself to the watchful eye of the police, who will either fine him or put him in prison. About a year ago I had to pay 56 marks for having met at my own house with about twenty friends, to read the Holy Scriptures, to sing and pray. In other provinces a missionary is not allowed to enter the country, and thus the poor people die more hopeless of heaven, with their rationalist pastors, than the Chinese or the hardened Jew. But our Tracts can find their way where no other means can, under existing circumstances, be enjoyed. Satan begins to feel that these little messengers of peace are made, in many instances, by the power of Divine grace, instrumental in pulling down his strong holds, and hence he stirs up to opposition all who have enrolled themselves beneath his banners.

Our brethren in England have, from time to time, come forward and given us their kind assistance; but alas! hitherto nothing has been undertaken adequate to the forlorn condition of my native country; how would my heart rejoice if our transatlantic brethren could give us, in any way, some assistance.

The claim the Committee would make, says the printed appeal accompanying the letter, is founded on the call, the loud, long, increasing call, made on them from various parts of Germany, backed by ample encouragement derived from the blessing with which it has pleased the glorious Savior to accompany the reading of these publications.

During the two past years alone, in addition to former spheres of usefulness, active and warmly interested agents have sprung up in Bremen, Celle, (where an auxiliary has been formed,) Gottingen, Hanover, Brunswick, Hameln, and throughout Hanover in General; Pyrmont, Lippe-Detmold, Hesse, Elberfeld, Crefeld, Wesel, and many parts of East-Friesland—further in Poland, Silesia, Bohemia, Upper-Saxony, Bavaria, Westphalia, Prussia, Dantzic, Konigsberg, many parts of Pomerania, and of Mecklenburg; Thuringia, Stuttgart, Tyrol, Oldenburg, Holstein, Alsatia, Luneburg; and many of our correspondents in these towns and counties are themselves depositories from whom numerous ministers and others are supplied with smaller quantities, in their respective circles. Many of them are surrounded with a Catholic population.

To meet these demands, the committee have tried every means for raising subscriptions, for diminishing the price of printing and paper; have ventured on larger editions, and have stereotyped several numbers. The Treasurer is, notwithstanding, always in advance; and though the funds increase, the stock of Tracts lessens. Will it be suffered to dry up? Shall a door thus widely opened, in every part presenting an ever-increasing field of useful operations, be opened in vain? Christian brethren, ye answer, no! Think *what one Tract may do*;



and think that for \$20 5,000 copies of "Search the Scriptures," or a similar Tract, are printed; for \$1 you show the way of salvation to 250 immortal souls.

### TRACT DISTRIBUTION IN NEW-ORLEANS.

It was announced, some time since, that the Committee of the American Tract Society had made a grant of 500,000 pages of Tracts, to aid the Board of Agency in New-Orleans, particularly in their gratuitous distributions in that city; and also that Mr. Moses H. Wilder had been commissioned by the Parent Institution as an Agent to assist them in their responsible labors. Mr. Wilder has now presented the report of his agency to the month of June, of which the following is an abstract.

On my arrival in New-Orleans the Depository contained, in Tracts and volumes, . . . . . 1,082,580 pages.  
Since received, . . . . . 717,600

1,800,180

Sold to Auxiliaries and individuals . . . . . 216,493  
Gratuitously distributed in Texas . . . . . 15,520  
Do. in Florida . . . . . 10,000  
Do. in interior of Louisiana . . . . . 144,800  
Do. in New-Orleans to Sailors and Boatmen 42,000; Sabbath Schools . . . . .  
2,500; monthly distribution 240,145;  
miscellaneous 34,500 . . . . . 319,145  
Do. to Steam-Boats on the river, . . . . . 16,000

721,958

Remaining in the Depository June 4, . . . . . 1,135,186

#### *Systematic Monthly Distribution.*

The monthly distribution of Tracts to every family in the city willing to receive them was commenced in March, and has been systematically prosecuted, with very small exceptions, throughout the city for three successive months. I hoped to find individuals to engage in the distribution who would be able to continue the work without the aid of an Agent. Only six, however, have yet enlisted as distributors, a part of whom have proved very zealous and efficient laborers. The results of the distribution for April were as follows.

Families supplied: French 2,316; English 1,156; German 108; Spanish 98 . . . . . 3,678  
Houses to which access was not gained . . . . . 168  
Families refusing the Tract . . . . . 66

Whole number reported . . . . . 3,912

The manner in which the Tracts have been received has been truly gratifying, and, so far as I can judge, they have been read by a greater proportion of those who receive them than those distributed in New-

York, and with greater interest. Often have the French ladies followed me in the street, as I have passed their doors, to get more Tracts, and many have expressed their satisfaction in high terms, that they could once more have Tracts to read; for they had not seen any since they had been in the city. In the last month's distribution I was often compelled, by families who spoke in English, to go in; and sometimes have conversed with them freely respecting the concerns of the soul; in one or two individuals I have found considerable anxiety on the subject of religion.

A Frenchman who, in March, treated me very coolly, in April met me with gratitude for the Tract, and in May came to the Depository to obtain a Bible for a friend, and expressed the great interest he had felt in reading it himself. On giving a Tract to an old lady, she expressed much joy at seeing Tracts in this country, and said she had often read them in England with much profit.

A Spanish woman appeared much gratified to find a book that she could read; saying, "You must have a good heart to give away such good books." When I called the next month, she said she had much trouble to make her husband believe that she had not bought the Tract; he was at length satisfied; carried it to his store in the lower part of the city, and lent it to his neighbors. On visiting that District in April, I found much inquiry for the *Dairyman's Daughter* in Spanish.

An old military officer said he had received a few Tracts from a clergyman some months before, and was much pleased with them, and begged that he might have several for his daughters in French and Spanish.

A young woman said she had read the Watchmaker many times, and was anxious to get some other. I asked if she knew any thing of the religion which was so dear to the poor Watchmaker. She said she did not, and that was what caused her trouble; she would give the whole world, were it at her disposal, to know that she was a christian. After some conversation I left her the "*Way to be Saved*," probably never to see her again till the final day of judgment.

On presenting a Tract the second month to a French Druggist, he took the last one out of his desk and said it was good, and appeared much pleased to receive another. He soon followed me to another house, and urged me back; took me into his room, and showed me his Bible, and seemed to wish me to understand that he read it much more now than before I left him the Tracts.

I met a man in the street who said the Tract you gave me the other day told me it was wrong to work on Sunday, and added that he had thought more of Sabbath-breaking for four days than he had before for as many years; he thought it was all wrong and he would be guilty of it no more.

A young man of intelligence, a catholic, called on one of the officers of the Board of Agency, and told him that a gentleman had been giving away Tracts in his neighborhood; that he had been prejudiced against them, but if all our Tracts were such as that gentleman left at his house he would do all in his power to promote their circulation. The Tracts referred to were the Watchmaker, Way to be Saved, and Dairyman's Daughter.

Often, on passing through a District after it was supplied, I have seen men and women sitting in their doors with a Tract in their hand, and deeply engaged in perusing it. Thirty or forty families have been supplied with Bibles. Though I cannot report any cases of conversion through the instrumentality of these Tracts, yet the eagerness with which they were sought after, and their effect, already apparent, in leading people to think about their souls, have brought me to the conclusion, that eternity will unfold the most important results from the monthly Tract distribution in New-Orleans.

*Distribution on the Levee.*

A most important branch of Tract operations in New-Orleans is a judicious distribution on Sabbath mornings, on the Levee, which is then crowded with sailors, boatmen, laborers, pedlars, merchants, and in fact with all descriptions of men. Numerous vessels and steam-boats are loaded and unloaded on the Sabbath, and probably more sail on that day than on any other. I have generally spent the Sabbath in distributing small Tracts to every one that would take them, at the same time inviting them to the Mariner's Church.

On offering a man a Tract on Sabbath breaking, he began to swear in the most dreadful manner. I, however, read him the Swearer's Prayer. This induced one gentleman and another to ask for a Tract, and about 30 were immediately distributed. The next Sabbath I found the same man on the Levee; he invited me on board his boat, and I had considerable personal religious conversation with him. It appeared that when about 15 years old he was hopefully converted, and had fallen into this dreadful state by imbibing the sentiments of Universalism. His confidence in that system seemed now a little shaken; he had just received a letter from his wife in the country, which he said shook his faith more than any thing he had seen since he had left the church.

As four men were unloading a flat boat, I told them that they had forgotten a law that was in force in this country. They said they were well acquainted with the laws of Louisiana, and were not conscious of having violated any, and desired to know to what law I referred. I replied, "Verily, my Sabbaths ye shall keep." O, said the master, "*there is no Sabbath here.*" I replied, God never exempted New-Orleans. He acknowledged he was wrong, and immediately left his work; said he had been in the habit of going to church constantly, but as every body worked here, he thought he would not be alone. I gave them each a Tract, and in the afternoon they were all at the Mariner's church.

One morning I found an old sailor making preparation to sell a quantity of poultry, gave him the Tract '*On the Lord's Day,*' and endeavored to persuade him to put aside his business and go to church. He acknowledged my advice was good; but said he should lose all his property if he did not take care of it. I told him he had better lose his property than lose his soul, as he certainly would, if he continued a Sabbath-breaker. In the afternoon he was at the Mariner's church, and before service related the circumstances of our interview, adding that he could not get along with his work, and was obliged to put it by and go to church.

I asked a young sailor if his mother never talked to him about religion. He said she did. "Yes," said another who stood near; "and she prayed for us too; and if we had followed her advice we should have escaped many a hard time." After some very interesting conversation, during which an occasional tear stole down their cheeks, I gave them the "Praying Mother" and "Charles Grafton." In the afternoon and evening they were both at the church, and were very solemn.

#### TWO TRACTS DROPPED BY THE WAY-SIDE.

A clergyman of New-York city related from the pulpit the following facts: A clergyman in a neighboring town, some months since, as he was riding, passed some young females, near a school-house, and dropped from his carriage two Tracts, which he had previously marked. Some time after he was conversing with a young woman with reference to her spiritual state, and found her rejoicing in the hope of pardoned sin. He inquired the history of her religious feelings, and she traced them to a Tract dropped by a traveller, which was manifestly one of the two above referred to. He was at length called to visit another young woman on a sick bed, whose mind was calm and composed in view of death, which the event proved was near at hand. She traced her first serious impressions to the circumstance of two Tracts being dropped by a traveller—one of which she said was taken up by her cousin and the other by herself; and now, said she, we are both hoping in Christ. She had retained the Tract as a precious treasure, and putting her hand under her pillow, showed it to the clergyman, who immediately recognised the marks he had written on it.

#### AMERICAN TRACT SOCIETY, BOSTON.

##### *From a Clergyman, on the subject of Monthly Distribution.*

The Tract cause is advancing among us. This week completes the first Monthly Distribution to every family. We have some Catholics who receive them cordially. This system of effort is of immense importance to the church: it illustrates the practicability of lay efforts in the benevolent movements of the age. I have often thought that the members of the church sustain the same relation to the ministry that the common soldiers in the army sustain to the officers. The success of Tract efforts will convince multitudes of our church members that it is their duty to embark in other departments of benevolent enterprise; and the church will become strong and efficient just in proportion as the active co-operation of lay members with their ministers can be relied on.

#### AWARD OF PREMIUM

FOR THE BEST TRACT TO DISTILLERS AND VENDERS OF  
ARDENT SPIRITS.

The Committee to whom was assigned the award of a premium of \$50 for the best Tract on the subject of distilling and vending ardent spirits, have agreed to prefer that entitled "*Alarm to Distillers and all who encourage them.*" The author, on opening the sealed envelope, proves to be the Rev. BAXTER DICKINSON, of Newark, N. J.

The Committee have examined *twenty* manuscript Tracts on the subject,\* all of them breathing a correct spirit, and many of them evincing great strength of argument, sound intelligence, and a highly gratifying tone of piety, as well as distinguished ardor in the cause. After a careful and impartial consideration of the several productions, they came to the award above announced, in reference to a performance which, on the whole, appeared to them best calculated to reach the object for which the premium was offered.

GARDINER SPRING, } *Committee of*  
SAMUEL H. COX, } *Examination.*

*New-York, June 30, 1830.*

N. B. The Rev. Mr. M'Ilvaine, the remaining member of the Committee, being absent from the country, could not act.

\* At least *seven* of the Tracts submitted appeared to the Committee too good not to appear (after a few alterations) in some form before the public.

#### PREMIUM OFFERED.

A benevolent individual has placed in the hands of the undersigned the sum of 50 dollars, to be awarded by the Rev. Warren Fay, D. D., of Charlestown, Mass.; Rev. Justin Edwards, D. D., and Rev. Samuel Green, of Boston; to the author of the best Tract *On Prayer*, which shall be presented on or before the first day of January, 1831.

"It has often occurred to me," says the donor, "that, while so many noble plans of christian benevolence are in progress, each accompanied with full instructions as to the manner in which labor or money can be applied to the best advantage, our dependence on God is too much overlooked; and that the duty and manner of pleading acceptably with Him from whom all help cometh, for spiritual blessings, and for success to these enterprises, is too little insisted on.

"The exigencies of the times seem to require a comprehensive manual on the duty of *Prayer*, which may be accessible to all, and adapted to the peculiar circumstances of this new era of the world.

"The Tract should contain particular instructions relative to *Closest Prayer, Family Prayer, Social and Special Prayer*, (on which point I have felt that Christians needed much to be enlightened,) and *Public Prayer*. The whole to be so exhibited that a plain man may easily comprehend the subject, and be led, by the blessing of God, to feel its importance."

The manuscripts should each be accompanied by a sealed envelope containing the name of the writer, and may be addressed either to *Mr. Aaron Russell, No. 25 Cornhill, Boston*, or to

WILLIAM A. HALLOCK, 144 Nassau-street, New-York.

#### TRACT MANUAL,

*Published by the Executive Committee of the American Tract Society, specially intended for the use of the Officers and Solicitors of Branches and Auxiliaries: pages 24, 12mo.*

It is the design of this work to present, in the most compressed form, the principal facts relative to the history, character, and operations of the American Tract Society, and the most desirable methods of promoting its usefulness. It is not uncommon for the friends of the

Tract cause, and especially the Solicitors of Auxiliary Societies, to meet with objections founded in ignorance, which they find it difficult to answer, from their limited knowledge of the facts which have been published from year to year in the Society's Annual Reports and other publications. To such, especially, it is believed this Manual will prove acceptable and useful.

It first presents a brief History of Tract Societies; and then, in detail, the principal facts relative to the American Tract Society; its organization; committees; principles on which its pecuniary concerns are transacted; its present pecuniary resources and the means by which its operations are sustained; its House; prices of its publications; discounts; field of operation; Agents; usefulness; &c. Various suggestions are added relative to the formation of Auxiliaries; the construction of large Branches and Auxiliaries owning Depositories at the principal commercial centres; the duties of their respective Officers and Agents; and the qualifications of Tract Solicitors and the manner in which their duties are to be performed.

Copies of the work may be obtained by Auxiliaries and friends of the Society, gratuitously, from the General Depository: indeed it is desirable that every active friend of the Tract cause should possess the information condensed into this little Manual.

### RECEIPTS

#### INTO THE TREASURY OF THE AMERICAN TRACT SOCIETY,

*During the month ending July 15, 1880.*

##### FROM AUXILIARY TRACT SOCIETIES.

	For Tr.	Don.
VER.—Cornwall, Benjamin F. Haskell, Pres.	8 00	5 00
MASS.—Boston, American Tract Soc., John Tappan, Esq. Tr.	1000 00	
Do. by their Fem. Aux. Wiscasset, Me., Mrs. S. Payson, Ag.	5 53	1 84
CONN.—Black Rock, Capt. G. Sturges, Pres.	7 24	2 76
Chester, Fem. Rev. William Case, Ag.	3 10	1 25
Hartford, Conn. Branch, Charles Hoamer, Sec.	200 00	
Huntington, William Mills, Sec.	6 75	
Killingworth, John S. Hull, Sec.	3 75	1 25
Northfield, Lyman Webster, Tr.	10 55	3 51
West-Chester, David L. Parmelee,		1 00
N. YORK.—Bath, James G. Higgins, Tr.	20 00	
Fishkill Landing, Fem., Miss M. W. Teller, Sec.	4 00	
Gallatin, Rev. Herman Vedder, Ag.	4 00	
Gothen, Orange Co., John S. Crane, Ag.	10 66	
Greenville, Fem., Miss Hannah Hicock, Sec.	4 00	
Hampstead, Rockland Co. Fem., Mrs. Elizabeth Coe, Sec.	8 00	
Jamaica, L. I., Marvin W. Fox, Sec.	3 74	1 21
Jamestown, Fem., Rebecca H. Harvey, Tr.	5 33	1 77
Lodi, Joseph Plumb, Tr.	2 93	
Newburgh, E. B. Williams, Tr.	9 40	
New-Windsor, Silas Corwin, Tr.	2 00	
New-York City, Chrystie-street Methodist Church, Fem., Mrs. Sarah B. Stilwell, Tr.	1 50	
Seventh Presbyterian Church, Ezra C. Stodge, Sec.	6 29	
St. George's Church, Fem., by their Juv. Aux.	3 00	
Portland, Chataque Co., T. Judson, Ag.	3 06	
Foughteepie, Fem., Mrs. Tabitha Tice, Tr.	3 95	

	For Tr.	Don.
Sidney, Delaware Co., Rev. John B. Fish, Ag.	3 96	
Taughcanick, Rev. Herman Vedder, Ag.	5 22	
Troy, Charles Lyman, Tr.	40 00	
Utica, Edward Vernon, Sec.	115 00	
White Plains, Fem., Polly Ward, Pres.	5 90	
NEW-JER.—Bankingridge, Horace Sheldon, Sec.	2 25	75
Bedminster, Isaac M. Fisher, Pres.	3 38	1 12
Chatham Village, Mrs. Charlotte Smith, Tr.	5 36	
Frankfort, Fem., Miss Eliza Gustis, Tr.	75	
Marksborough Congregation in Hardwick, Fem., Miss E. Harkinson, Sec.	5 00	
New-Vernon, Morris Co., J. J. Oliver, Sec.	8 00	
Oxford, Fem., Mrs. Sarah Sherrerd, Tr.	6 00	
Paterson, Juv., Henry Van Houten, Tr.	3 00	
Princeton, Fem., Miss F. W. Morford, Tr.	1 28	
Springfield, Abijah L. Dunnell, Tr.	2 24	
Stillwater, Fem., Mrs. Catharine Johnson, Sec.	3 00	
PENN.—North Middletown, Cumberland Co.,		5 00
Pittsburgh, Rev. Robert Patterson, Ag.	400 00	
VIR.—Staunton, Charles Patrick, Esq. Tr.	15 00	
S. CAR.—Charleston, S. Car. Branch, Rev. John Dickson, Ag.	50 00	
GEO.—Augusta, Francis M. Robertson, Sec.	72 00	
ALA.—Concord, Green Co., Fem., Mrs. Elizabeth F. Cunningham, Tr.	10 00	
TENN.—Nashville, Samuel B. Snowden, Tr.	57 50	
OHIO.—Chillicothe, Rev. John P. Bauman, Tr.	38 00	
Cincinnati, Henry B. Fuuk, Tr.	150 00	
Ellsworth, Trumbull Co., R. G. Huntington, Sec.	9 50	
Wagon, (Trumbull Co. Aux.) Rev. Harvey Coe, Sec.	5 00	
SOCIETIES NOT AUXILIARY.		
N. YORK.—Orange Co. S. School Union, John W. Wells, Ag.	4 83	
N. JER.—Elizabethtown, Union, J. J. Bryant, Sec.	9 18	
Paterson, Ref. Dutch Ch., Ralph Doremus, Tr.	4 00	
PENN.—Philadelphia, Baptist General Tract Soc., Rev. Noah Davis, Ag.	79 68	
N. CAR.—North-Carolina Book Co., by W. Whitehead, Fayetteville, N. C.	23 41	
Tracts sold at the Depository to individuals, (including \$27 50, for use of Room)	146 74	

*Director for Life.*

MASS.—Patterson, Rev. Cyrus W.  
Conant, (in full of \$50,) 30 00

*Members for Life.*

N. YORK.—Sidney, Delaware Co.,  
Rev. John B. Fish, by himself, 20 00  
South Salem, Miss Mary M. Mead, 20 00  
PENN.—Philadelphia, Rev. Thos.  
G. Allen, by a Friend, 90 00  
Pittsburgh, Samuel Thompson, (in  
full of \$20,) 10 00  
LOU.—New-Orleans, Henry True  
Page, 20 00  
TENN.—Nashville, Samuel B.  
Snowden, (in part of \$20,) 10 00  
" Hon. Robert W. Hyde, 20 00

*Annual Members.*

N. YORK.—Fishkill, Miss Fanny  
M. Gary, 2 00  
New-York City, J. M. Catlin, \$2,  
James Davidson, \$2, 4 00  
N. JERSEY.—Orange, Barney N.  
Powles, for 1899 & 1900, 4 00

*Other Donations.*

VER.—Cornwall, Miss Lucina  
Bingham, 3 00  
" Benjamin F. Haskell, \$1,  
Mrs. Betsey Haskell,  
\$1, 2 00  
MASS.—Chesterfield, Misses M. &  
L. Davis, 1 00  
CONN.—Middletown, Mercy Hall,  
50  
H. Wendover, 10 00  
Troy, Ladies' Industrious Soc. in  
Rev. Mr. Tucker's Congrega-  
tion, for Tracts for Greece, 10 00  
PENN.—A Female Friend, 2 00  
OHIO.—Somerset, Rev. Thomas  
Moore, 6 00

The above list contains donation—

For Tracts for Greece, . . . 10 00

Whole amount of Donations, \$220 99  
Received for Tracts sold, 2,630 80

Total, \$2,851 79

# THE AMERICAN Tract Magazine.

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VOL. V.]

SEPTEMBER, 1830.

[NO. 9.

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Exodus, Chap. 14.

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## NOVEL TRACT PUBLICATION.

WE have been kindly presented with an interesting little volume of 150 pages 18mo. published by the "Massachusetts Sabbath School Union," entitled, *The Stanwood Family; or History of the American Tract Society*. It is intended for the Sabbath School Library, and being a well-written narrative of familiar conversations occurring between the mother of the Stanwood family, her six children, and a little nephew and niece, in five successive evenings, in two of which their circle was enlivened by the company of Col. Merton, Mrs. Stanwood's brother; the whole history is full of interest to a child, and can scarcely be less so to the benevolent reader of more mature years. The story commences with the History of the American Tract Society at Boston, and proceeds with it till the time of the formation of the American Tract Society at New-York, and thence continues the His-

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tory of the latter Society to the close of the year 1829. The little group are full of their inquiries respecting the various items of the History, in which they incidentally fall on the most common Infidel objections of the day to the Tract and all kindred Societies. Their various inquiries are answered by facts which had apparently been treasured in the minds of Mrs. Stanwood or Col. Merton, or which Mrs. Stanwood is represented as reading to her eager and playful auditory, from letters in her possession, but which are really drawn from official documents, and especially from the proceedings of the first ten years of the American Tract Society at Boston.

The book, as to the construction of the family circle, and the order of their conversations, is fiction; but all the essential information presented is fact. The principal statistics of the Society are stated in brief; the anecdotes of the usefulness of Tracts are given at much greater length, and are selected from the Society's publications with so much skill, and so adroitly interwoven with the various incidents of the narrative, as continually to interest the reader, and make a deep impression of the good the Society has accomplished.

The little work, we venture to say, will convey to the mind of the intelligent child more information concerning the character and objects of the American Tract Society than is possessed by one in 100 of the members of our Evangelical churches. The author has, in general, presented the facts to which the book alludes with great accuracy: in a few points we would cheerfully suggest some corrections for a second edition. We could also suggest a few topics of interest to be added, though we see nothing of special moment that is deficient, and the book certainly has this advantage, that it ends before the mind of the reader is satisfied; and leaves the impression that the subject is far from being exhausted.

We think the unknown writer of this little volume (a lady we presume) has done an essential service to the cause of Christian benevolence. The design of thus communicating facts to the young respecting the Christian operations of the age is a most happy one; and so ably has it in this instance been executed, that the reading of this work will be a sufficient inducement to us to read, for the sake of refreshing our memory and our own personal gratification, those other kindred works which have been recently published by the same Society, if they are not from the same pen, viz. *Conversations respecting the Sandwich Island Mission; the Bombay Mission; the Ceylon Mission, &c.* We only add, that it is immensely important the author of such a work should be aware of the responsibility assumed in its preparation; and should labor not only to give the principal matters of fact with accuracy; but so to present the great objects of these In-

stitutions, as to impress the mind of the young reader with their real magnitude and importance in the work of bringing a world into subjection to Jesus Christ.

### TWO INFIDEL OBJECTIONS CONTRASTED.

Friends and enemies of our benevolent institutions are daily becoming more numerous and decisive. Among the objections urged against the American Tract Society, we frequently meet with the two following:

Obj. 1. That *the prices of its publications are so HIGH*, that the Society is amassing large pecuniary resources from the profits of the sales.

Obj. 2. That *the prices of its publications are so LOW* as to interfere with the profits made by others on kindred publications, impoverish the Society, and create the necessity of large donations to sustain its operations.

We leave the two objections to stand contrasted; simply adverting to the following facts:

1. The principle adopted by the Committee is to sell the Society's publications at such prices that the amount received for such as are sold shall be equal to the whole amount expended in issuing them; so that the Society shall be neither enriched nor impoverished by its sales.

2. The Society's Fifth Annual Report, presented in May last, contains a complete inventory of the property of the Society, and a full exhibit of all its pecuniary concerns, in which it is believed every question of moment that can be raised respecting them is answered by an accurate statement of facts. By that inventory it appears, that the whole amount due from the Society (chiefly for paper bought on a credit) was, within a very small sum, equal to the whole amount due to the Society on Tracts sold at a credit; and that *all the property of the Society* (exclusive of its house, which was erected solely by donations for that explicit object) *consisted of the publications in its General Depository, its stereotype plates, engravings, and paper on hand, the total value of which was, in round numbers, \$37,000.*

3. The Society's publications being sold without a profit, the expense of all its gratuitous distributions, and of spreading out its operations over every destitute field to be occupied, must be sustained by donations; and these donations must be increased just in proportion to the fidelity and activity of the Society in obeying the command of Christ to convey a knowledge of his Gospel to "*every creature.*"

## FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

*From the Prayer Book and Homily Society, London, dated Salisbury-Square, April 19th, 1830.*

MY DEAR SIR—Your most welcome letter, and the handsome present of your Society to the Committee of the Prayer Book and Homily Society came duly to hand, and I received instructions some time since to communicate their sincere acknowledgments of the testimony of your reciprocal kindness. The union of true Christian love is indissoluble. May this love abound in all Christian Societies. How beautiful to behold, and how precious would be *that Tree*, on which should be engrafted *many branches*, bearing various kinds of choice fruit—all receiving, under God, their life and nourishment from one general root:—it would fairly represent to us the Word of God, the grand foundation and root of every Christian doctrine, together with its beautiful branches, set forth in pleasing dress, in Religious Books and Tracts.

The great God who created us, and whom we are bound to serve, is portrayed unto us in the Holy Scriptures in most charming characters—none of which may be esteemed more than these which describe him as “the God of peace and love.” In these we behold him rich in mercy, faithful in holiness, reconciling the world unto himself by his only-begotten Son Jesus Christ, in whom righteousness and peace have kissed each other, and by whose Spirit the fruit of love, and peace, and every Christian grace, is yielded in us.

How shall we then become the heralds of peace to the great mass of our fellow sinners who are still rebellious, remaining in darkness and the shadow of death? How shall we visit every abode of wickedness, and speak the same language in every tongue throughout the wide world, in the glorious message of peace? Where are the Ministers of God to be found, sufficient for these things? Their vocal powers, however enlarged their heart, are altogether feeble, when compared to the field before them. Where their *voices*, therefore, may not be heard, let their *words*, in form of Books or Tracts, founded on every doctrine of Holy Scripture, be sent forth to every clime, and every tribe, to proclaim peace “through the blood of the Lamb:” each as it were being a branch from that living Tree, the Word of God, inasmuch as it is founded on its truths, receives all its authority to declare and explain, and its power and usefulness to promulgate the word of life, whithersoever it is sent.

How needful then is it to examine carefully whether these branches which, by God’s permission, we send into the world, set forth in some the duties, and in some the practice of our holy religion. The wrath of God against desperate offenders; the fallen state of man; the grace of God through Jesus Christ; the divine nature, power, and influences of the Holy Spirit; the necessary duty of repentance; the privileges of believers; the consolation of the saints; may all be suitable treatises in their place, and prove so many beautiful branches of the living Vine, and be profitably circulated. That such beauty exists in most of your little messengers, the seal of God put upon

them in their general usefulness will evidence. You will, I am persuaded, agree with me, that it is needful to keep a constant watchful eye upon all such Tracts, to be sent into the world for such a holy purpose as that of awakening, leading, guiding, and strengthening the souls of men to the haven of peace.

Let the children of God, then, in America, as well as in England, remember their high privilege: they are "workers together with God." And, inasmuch as they cannot work of themselves, but the Spirit of God must "work in them both to will and to do of his own good pleasure," let them not forget that the branches will not bear fruit except they abide in the Tree, and that it is needful they should exercise *themselves* constantly in prayer, in faith, in much diligence, and watchfulness: they must ever be mindful of the Scripture caution, "Be not weary in well doing;" and be encouraged by the conditional promise, "in due season ye shall reap, if ye faint not."

Believe me to remain, my dear Sir, with all Christian affection, yours most sincerely,

THOMAS SEAWARD,  
*Assistant Secretary.*

## LONDON RELIGIOUS TRACT SOCIETY.

### THIRTY-FIRST ANNIVERSARY.

The Western General Meeting of the friends of this Society was held at Willis' Room, King-street, James's Square, on Thursday, May 6, 1830. The Marquess CHOLMONDELEY in the Chair.

The meeting was addressed by Mr. W. Jones, Assistant Secretary; Rev. R. W. Sibthorp, Secretary; Rev. T. S. Grimshawe, of Biddenham; Rev. John Clayton, Jun.; Rev. J. H. Stewart; Rev. Dr. Milnor, of New-York; Rev. J. Hartly, Missionary, from Greece; Rev. C. Scholl, Foreign Secretary; Hon. and Rev. B. W. Noel; Rev. J. Hatchard, of Plymouth; Hon. and Rev. G. T. Noel; Capt. Vernón, R. N.; Rev. G. Clayton; Rev. J. Hughes, Secretary. Collection £35.

A Sermon was preached for the Society on Wednesday evening, May 12, by the Rev. J. F. DENHAM, at Long Acre Episcopal Chapel. Collection £89 10s.

The *Thirty-first Anniversary* of the Society, at which the Report was presented, and the Officers elected, was held May 16, at the City of London Tavern. The Hon. THOMAS ERSKINE in the Chair. The Assembly was addressed on this occasion by Rev. Dr. J. P. Smith; Rev. Dr. Milnor, of New-York; Rev. David Stuart, of Dublin; Rev. J. C. Boddington, of Horton; Rev. John Dyer, Secretary to the Baptist Missionary Society; Rev. S. S. Wilson, Missionary, from Malta; Rev. W. H. Stowell, of North Shields; Rev. James Matheson, of Durham; Dr. Ring, of Reading. Collection £50 1s. 8d.

### ABSTRACT OF THE REPORT.

*Short Extracts from the Society's proceedings in foreign parts.*

SIAM.—The works which have been distributed by the Missionaries have excited great attention. Several persons have been deeply impressed with the truth contained in the Chinese Tracts, and of one the Missionaries express a hope that he has received the truth in the

love of it. It is of great importance to distribute Chinese Tracts with a liberal hand at Bankok, where upward of 300,000 Chinese are to be found.

**MALACCA.**—The Missionaries, during the past year, have printed, in addition to other works, 18,700 Chinese Tracts, and 5,500 New Sheet Tracts, most of which have been distributed in the neighborhood, or sent to the different Missionary stations in the Eastern Archipelago. The Missionaries have discovered, with much pleasure, that the books which were formerly given away have been carefully preserved.

**SINGAPORE.**—The Rev. Robert Burn, the Secretary of the Singapore Committee, in acknowledging the arrival of a grant, mentions the wide circulation of the Tracts received. The Missionaries visit the junks which come from Canton, Onam, Siam, and other places; and on one of these occasions 17 of those small vessels were visited, and the men liberally supplied with religious publications, which were thankfully received. Visits are also made to the people. On one of these occasions Mr. Gutzlaff remarks, "As usual, we met with a very hearty reception wherever we came. In the houses, in the temples, and in the open streets, we had often crowds almost instantly gathered around us, giving ear with cheerful countenances to the word of life, and stretching out their hands eagerly for books. Some would tell us the nature of our books and the doctrines taught in them; and the terms by which they generally designated them was, 'books to reform the world,' and works 'making the heart better.'"

**PINANG.**—The former grant to the Rev. S. Dyer reached him in due course. He speaks of the great value of English books, and has received a farther supply to the extent of £20. He has remitted £12 for a former consignment, and a donation of £3 from a friend in aid of our funds. The manner in which Mr. Dyer circulates religious publications will be seen from the following letter:

"The Chinese, you know, are very polished idolaters. A few evenings since there was special worship performing in their temple; and while the worship was proceeding I was engaged in the temple distributing Tracts. I sometimes think the priests will soon expell me from the temple; but my Tracts are mostly distributed therein, or at the *threshold*, or just outside of the gate; and it is very common to see persons who have accepted my books entering the temple for the sake of the lights, and there reading them; which often induces others to come for supplies; and I consider it an omen for good that books are received and read."

Mr. Dyer also remarks: "I hope the Committee will bear in mind the great importance of aiding in printing for the Chinese; there are many Canton people in Pinang who cannot understand a word I say, and the only way of doing them good is by giving them books. It is the same at other stations."

**BATAVIA.**—Several thousand copies of Chinese books and Tracts have been printed at Malacca for the use of Mr. Medhurst, and also three or four new works. He took a long voyage up the eastern coast of the Malayan peninsula, and circulated a large number of Chinese and Malay publications. On visiting Sangora, a Siamese town, he distributed his books among the people. "The crowd of children," he

remarks, "and other curious people who pressed around, anxious to get a sight of the stranger, was great. Our books were universally well received, and one man was so much struck with what he saw and heard, that he clapped his hand upon his purse and asked me if I wanted to make use of money, as his purse was at my service. The man's purse, perhaps, did not contain many pice, and he might have been more ready with his words than he would have been with his deeds; but this was the first time I ever knew a Chinese ready to offer pecuniary assistance." How interesting are first attempts to proclaim the Gospel to those who sit in darkness!

**BURMAH.**—The Committee have often felt the importance of aiding the operations of the Missionaries in Burmah who are printing Tracts in the language of the people. It is stated that nearly the whole of the male population in Burmah can read, and that Tracts may be printed and circulated without any limit, except that of the funds which may be furnished, and such publications will most easily and successfully spread the truths of the Gospel in Burmah. The history of the Mission shows the beneficial influence of Tracts.

#### MADRAS PRESIDENCY.

**MADRAS.**—During the year, 48,000 native Tracts were printed and several new ones were in the press. The Tracts issued during the year were about the same in number as those which were printed. The following extracts are taken from the letters of several "fellow-workers" in this good cause.

"A heathen came from a village more than 50 miles distant, having a Tract in his hand which he said he had received from a passing Missionary, a long time ago, and declared, that by this Tract he, as well as some other families in his village, had been deeply impressed with the wickedness of idolatry, and the necessity of conversion, and he was come now to obtain more Christian instruction. There are now some congregations of ours in that neighborhood. Thus, we see, that after many days the seed sown begins to shoot forth to the glory of the Lord.

"It should be remembered by the Committee, and the friends of the Tract Society at large, that, what cases of partial success want in individual importance, is supplied by their numbers. Heathens, before large assemblies of their own people, declaring their conviction of the truth of the Christian system, and their determination to embrace it; others, by a comparison of the doctrines of Christianity with the senseless and impure ceremonies of heathenism confessing the decided superiority of the former; Romanists tearing from their necks the emblems of their idolatry, and throwing away, with abhorrence, the charms in which they had been instructed to place unwavering confidence:—these and such like circumstances, although not sufficiently important to detail, have repeatedly occurred, and cannot but have a powerful tendency to loosen the prejudices and awaken the attention of both heathen and Christian idolaters."

Mr. Reeve, who is supplying for Mr. Hands during his absence in England, remarks, "I passed a Sabbath in one of the largest towns on my journey to Bellary, when one fact came to my knowledge which may be viewed as a ground of encouragement. A weaver came

and importuned me for a fresh supply of our Sacred Writings, saying he had received, on a former visit I had made to his village, an invaluable boon, which he highly prized, carefully preserved, and almost daily studied. He went and fetched the book to convince me of the truth of his assertions. It was a copy of the Gospel of St. Luke, which had been given to him in 1824; and, from the manner in which it was fingered, it seemed not to have been neglected."

**BANGALORE.**—The Rev. W. Campbell is publishing an important series of Tracts in the Canarese language, on a variety of scriptural subjects, which, when completed, will form a complete body of Divinity for native Christians and readers. The Committee, to encourage this work, have sent Mr. Campbell a supply of 24 reams of paper, and 2,600 Tracts.

**NAGEROOIL and PALAMCOTTAH NATIVE TRACT SOCIETY.**—During the past year 35,000 Tracts were printed.

#### BOMBAY PRESIDENCY.

**SURAT.**—Since the former Report received from this station the missionaries have circulated in the city and province of Surat 25,000 Tracts in the Gujuratte language, and they rejoice that their opportunities of distributing these messengers of mercy daily increase.

#### CEYLON.

**COLUMBO.**—The Rev. B. Clough informs the Committee, that all former grants of paper safely reached Columbo, and were found useful to the missionaries. In reference to the "Pilgrim's Progress," in Singhalese, he remarks, "This valuable and truly important work I doubt not will be made a blessing to many in this country. It is sought after with great avidity by natives of all classes: the whole story is told in a style so closely approximating to the Oriental, that when they commence reading it rivets their whole attention until the story is out. I have, at present, scores of applications for the first part, which is out of print.

**JAFFNA.**—The General Report contains much information from this district. During the year 55,600 Tracts were printed, which, with 70,840 circulated up to the close of the preceding year, made a total of 126,440 distributed by the Society since its formation. Several new Tracts have been printed and most extensively circulated.

**SANDWICH ISLANDS.**—The American missionaries, in nine months, ending September 1, 1828, printed 51,900 copies of Hymn Books, portions of Scripture, and Tracts. They are in a situation to print 600 reams of paper in the year, which will make 22,000 volumes of 300 pages each, or 800,000 Tracts of 8 pages. These efforts have been confined to the American Brethren; but the Committee have expressed their willingness to help them, by supplies of paper, should the same be found necessary.

**ST. HELENA.**—To the Superintendent of a large Sunday School on this island the Committee sent out a grant of 2,400 publications; and the Library, containing all the publications, was purchased for the use of the School.

#### AMERICA.

**SPANISH AMERICA.**—Very encouraging information has been received from Mexico. About 6,000 children's books reached that city.

A Spanish priest read and approved the little works, and prepared an advertisement for insertion in the Mexican papers. Within six days the whole of these works were sold, and the Committee have received a remittance of £50, with instructions to send out 80,000 copies of similar useful works. Several new books for children have been printed, and 33,100 have already been sent to Mexico. All the friends of the young will pray that many of the lambs of the Savior's flock may be led to the Good Shepherd through their means.

#### INCOME.

The total amount of the Society's receipts, the present year, is £25,062 6s. 7d. (\$111,388,) being an increase of £2,330 19s. 3d. over the income of last year. Of the whole sum there were received from sales £19,954.

There were circulated, during the year, 10,569,937 publications, being an increase of 456,474, without including any of the Tracts published at the Society's expense in foreign countries.

#### USEFULNESS OF TRACTS.

##### *Swearer's Prayer blessed to a Ploughman.*

In the district of A——, says the Charleston Observer, as some Sabbath School children were going one Sabbath morning to their school, having with them a little bundle of Tracts, they passed by the field of a man who had long neglected the sanctuary and the ordinary means of grace. One of them passed over the fence and fastened to the plough-beam the Tract called "*The Swearer's Prayer*," and continued on to school. On Monday morning when the man came to his plough, he found the Tract, but was unable to tell how it came there; and surprised at the singular circumstance, took it home and read it carefully again and again. Conviction fastened upon his conscience; he began to attend places of public worship. His anxiety after truth continued, until (as he trusts) he found peace in a Savior's blood, and has since connected himself with a Christian church.

#### CINCINNATI BRANCH TRACT SOCIETY.

During the third year of this Society's operations, ending May 1, 1830, its receipts were \$2,624 67. Amount of pages sold, 2,641,101; delivered to members of the Board, 10,000; dispersed in the monthly distribution in Cincinnati, 265,240; total issued, 2,916,350 pages; being an increase of 1,864,285 pages over the issues of the preceding year. During the year 80 new Auxiliaries have been reported, making the whole number of Auxiliaries 87. The Society at Indianapolis has, during the year, purchased 285,000 pages, and that at Madison 111,280 pages.

The *Systematic Monthly Distribution* was commenced in Cincinnati in the month of November. The city was divided into 53 districts. The number of families reported by the distributors, as visited the first month, was 3,822, of which 30 declined receiving the



Tract. Tracts distributed in shops, 170. Whole number of Tracts distributed, 3,962. About the same number have been distributed each month.

A Committee reported that one firm which had for several years been accustomed to deal largely in the article of whiskey were, on reading the Tract and attempting to give it circulation, struck with the inconsistency of engaging in efforts to promote the cause of temperance while they continued to deal in that article. They deliberately came to the conclusion, therefore, that henceforth they will touch not, taste not, handle not, the poisonous liquid.

The same system has also been adopted by several of the Auxiliaries of this Branch.

#### TRACT GIVEN TO A WORKMAN.

A gentleman in Indiana gave to a workman, who was about to leave him, out of health, a Tract, which he promised to read every Sabbath for two months. About two months after the gentleman called at a public house, a few miles from his place of business, and as he was about to leave, a poor woman being informed who he was, asked him if he had any little books. At first he did not know the object of her question. She told him that two months before a sick man called at her house and remained a day or two, who had with him a little book which he said you gave him. I read it, and was so anxious to obtain it that I offered him 25 cents for it, which he refused, saying that he had promised to read it every Sabbath for two months. Now I am anxious to obtain the value of 25 cents of the same kind. The gentleman immediately gave her one of each kind he had with him, telling her she was welcome to them. The interest and gratitude which this woman manifested, said the gentleman, was more than a full compensation for the \$5 worth of Tracts which I took from home.

#### TRACTS ON A STEAM-BOAT.

*From a Passenger.*

It was Sabbath morning. Soon after the boat was under way the deck passengers commenced their favorite game at cards. Two young men in the cabin started a game of back-gammon. Among the cabin passengers was a man of venerable appearance, a professor of religion, from New-York. The game went on without interruption. At length two religious Tracts appeared on the table: the hand that placed them there was concealed. One of the young men seeing the Tracts, closed the board, and said, "I had much better be reading these Tracts than playing on the Sabbath." The other was much displeased. A young lawyer, who thought much of his talents, expressed his indignation at the Tracts, his disrespect for the Bible, and dared the man who had placed the Tracts on the table to show himself. This led to a long conversation with regard to the truth of Christianity. The passengers being most of them professed friends of religion, either engaged in the conversation, or listened to it. After it ceased, their attention was directed to the Tracts, and there was no more playing during the day.

#### BRANCH TRACT SOCIETY AT PITTSBURGH.

At the Annual meeting of this Society, held in June last, the Report was read by Rev. Job F. Halsey; addresses were made by him

by Rev. Messrs. E. P. Swift and O. Eastman, and by Rev. Dr. Heron; and resolutions were adopted to sustain the monthly distribution, which has been for some months successfully prosecuted in that city, and to make vigorous efforts to enlarge the Depository for the accommodation of the 150 Auxiliaries of that Branch. On opening the subscription the President arose and said he would give \$25 to supply the city for one month, if eleven others would do the same. The students of the Theological Seminary at Alleghany town volunteered for one month; the teachers in the Sabbath Schools of the 1st and 2d Presbyterian churches, for one month each; the ladies in each of those churches, for a month; three individuals subscribed \$25 each after the meeting; the whole sum raised was \$380, and committees were appointed to solicit further subscriptions.

Rev. O. Eastman, General Agent of the American Tract Society for the Valley of the Mississippi, is now on a visit to the Eastern States for the purpose of awakening a deeper interest in behalf of the Society, and especially of its operations at the West.

#### CHRISTIAN ALMANAC FOR 1891.

Just published, by Messrs. Lincoln and Edmands, for the American Tract Society, Boston, price 64 cents single, 50 cents per dozen, \$3 50 per hundred, \$39 50 per thousand; sold by the publishers and booksellers generally; also, at the Tract Depository, No. 25 Cornhill, Boston. All who wish a supply of the Christian Almanac will do well to obtain them early; those who wish to receive them from the Tract Depository should direct their orders to Mr. AARON RUSSELL, Agent, American Tract Society, Boston.

#### RECEIPTS

##### INTO THE TREASURY OF THE AMERICAN TRACT SOCIETY,

*During the month ending August 15, 1890.*

##### FROM AUXILIARY TRACT SOCIETIES.

	For Tr.	Don.
VER.—Orwell, Linus Wilcox, Sec.		2 00
MASS.—Boston, American Tract Society, John Tappan, Esq. Tr.	69 09	
Springfield, Solomon Warriner, Jun. Tr.	20 00	
Williamstown, Williams College, Prof. Ebenezer Kellogg, Ag.	8 63	2 87
CONN.—Branford,		6 18
New-Haven, A. Townsend, Jun. Tr.	15 36	
Norwich City, F. A. Perkins, Esq. Tr.	82 74	
West Greenwich, W. B. Sherwood, Sec.	7 52	
West Hartford, Mark Gridley, Tr. for Vall. Miss.		20 46
N. YORK.—Canaan, Four Corners, Fem. Mrs. E. C. Warner, Pres.	3 14	
Carmel, (Red Mills,) Fem. Phebe Smith, Sec.	4 00	
Corinth, Fem. Hannah Earley, Sec.	6 00	
Harpersville, Broome Co. Azor Smith, Sec.	5 85	1 75
Hempstead, L. L. Robert Eells, Tr.	6 40	
Ithaca, (Tompkins Co. Aux.) Daniel L. Bishop, Tr.	41 01	36 39
Jamaica, L. L. James Rider, Tr.	1 06	35
Marbletown, Ulster Co., Louis J. Hasbrouck, Tr.	6 62	1 88
Naples, Fem. Mrs. Lucy T. Morgan, Tr.	7 09	
New-York City Tract Society, Alfred Edwards, Tr.	23 50	
Do. by Fem. Auxiliary, Mrs. J. R. Hurd, Tr.	95 50	
Troy, Charles Lyman, Tr.	30 00	

	For Tr.	Don.
N. JER.—Bloomfield, Juv., Robert R. Kellogg, Sec. . . . .	8 84	
Hardwick, Warren Co., Fem. Miss Sarah M. Roy, Tr. . . . .	3 74	
Jersey City, Fem., Mrs. Sarah Olcott, Sec. . . . .	5 00	
Mendham, Fem. Miss Ruth Dayton, Tr. . . . .	1 00	
Morristown, Fem. Mrs. Lewis Mills, Tr. . . . .	20 00	10 00
New Hope and Lambertsville, Fem., Ellen W. Studdiford of L. Sec. . . . .	8 50	1 50
Princeton, Fem. Miss F. W. Morford, Tr. . . . .	1 00	
Springfield, Abijah L. Dunnell, Tr. . . . .	4 00	
PENN.—Montrose, Susq. Co., Jerre Lyons, Sec. . . . .	4 50	
Philadelphia Branch, Rev. Joel T. Benedict, Gen. Ag. . . . .	500 00	
DIS. COL.—Washington City, John Kennedy, Tr. . . . .	101 18	
VIR.—St. Geo. Par. Accomac Co., Fem. Miss Sarah P. Satchell, Sec. . . . .	15 00	5 00
Winchester, Daniel Gold, Ag. . . . .	65 01	
N. CAR.—Salem, William Lewis Benzein, Sec. . . . .	50 00	
ALA.—Huntsville, Samuel Coltart, Ag. . . . .	20 00	
IND.—Terra Haute, William C. Linton, Ag. . . . .	46 00	
OHIO.—Cincinnati, Henry B. Funk, Tr. . . . .	100 00	
Harpersfield, (Ashtabula Co. Aux.) Rev. Perry Pratt, Sec. . . . .	61 38	
Perrysburgh, (Wood Co. Aux.) Leander Sackett, Ag. . . . .	10 00	
MO.—St. Louis Branch, W. S. Olmsted, Tr. . . . .	119 50	
SOCIETIES NOT AUXILIARY.		
N. YORK.—New-Utrecht, Fem. Bib. Miss. and Tr. Soc. Mrs. Catharine Knapp, Tr. . . . .	6 24	
N. JER.—Elizabethtown, Union, J. J. Bryant, Tr. . . . .	1 60	
Paterson, in Presb. Church, Henry Van Houten, Tr. . . . .	4 00	
VIR.—Fredericksburg, Prayer Book and Tract Society, Reuben T. Thom, Tr. . . . .	29 94	
N. CAR.—North-Carolina Book Co., Rev. James W. Douglass, Ag. . . . .	36 00	
Tracts sold at the Depository to individuals, . . . . .	360 25	

*Director for Life.*

MASS.—Springfield, Chicopee Par.  
Rev. Alexander Phoenix, by his  
Ch. and Cong. (in full of \$50.) \$30 00

*Members for Life.*

CONN.—Bridgeport, Miss Polly  
Cornelius, (in full of \$20.) . . . 10 00  
North Branford, Rev. Judson A.  
Root, by Mrs. Emily P. Root, (in  
part of \$20.) . . . . . 13 46  
N. YORK.—New-York city, Ebe-  
nezer Platt, Jun. . . . . 20 00  
PENN.—McConnellsburg, David Ag-  
new, . . . . . 20 00  
VIR.—Winchester, Miss Anna D.  
Holliday, by a Friend, (in part of  
\$20.) . . . . . 5 00  
ILL.—Galena, Samuel T. Smith, by  
himself and Rev. Aratus Kent, . . . 20 00  
OHIO.—Coshocton, Rev. George  
W. Warner, by a Member of his  
Church, . . . . . 20 00

*Annual Directors.*

N. JER.—Newark, Hon. Theodore  
Frelinghuysen, . . . . . 5 00  
GEO.—Washington, Rev. Jesse  
Mercer, Vice-President, . . . . . 5 00

*Annual Members.*

New-York city, Archibald C. Brady, 2 00

Daniel Lord, Jun. for 1829 and 1830,  
\$4—Leander Mead, \$2, . . . . . 6 00  
Rev. William M'Murray, D. D.,  
Mrs. John Peck, . . . . . 4 00  
John Steele, . . . . . 2 00

*Other Donations.*

CONN.—East-Goshen, H. Baldwin, 1 00  
N. YORK.—Livonia, Miss Maria  
Beecher, avails of jewelry, . . . 75  
New-York city, A Friend, 25 cts.—  
do. A Friend 25 cts. . . . . 50  
Owego, Tioga Co., Mrs. Mary E.  
Putnam, avails of a gold chain, . . 3 00  
Westford, Otsego Co., Fem. Pray-  
ing Association, . . . . . 2 00  
GEO.—Washington, Rev. Jesse Mer-  
cer, Vice-President, for Tracts  
for Burmah, . . . . . 15 00  
ALA.—Whitesburg, Madison Co.,  
Mrs. E. Gardiner, . . . . . 1 00  
KEN.—Paris, Mrs. Todd, . . . . . 1 50

The above list contains donations—

For Tracts for Valley of Miss. \$20 46  
For Tracts for Burmah, . . . 15 00

Whole amount of Donations, \$275 52  
Received for Tracts sold, 2,016 03

Total, \$2,291 03

# THE AMERICAN Tract Magazine.

VOL. V.]

OCTOBER, 1830.

[NO. 10.]



See Tract Blind Ellen, No. 56.

## VALLEY OF THE MISSISSIPPI.

At the present moment, when efforts are making, in so many ways, to promote the moral welfare of the Valley of the West, every intelligent Christian and patriot must desire to possess himself of the real *matters of fact* in respect to the actual state of that part of our country, that he may suitably estimate its claims, and the encouragement to prosecute the various Christian enterprises commenced in its behalf, and that he may know what is his own duty in respect to them. To all such the following facts, from a discreet and faithful laborer in Alabama and Tennessee, cannot fail to be acceptable.

REV. FRANCIS H. CASE'S REPORT OF HIS AGENCY FOR THE AMERICAN TRACT SOCIETY IN ALABAMA AND TENNESSEE.

### *Amount of labor performed.*

Travelled, in 18 months, by water and by land, including journey to the field and returning, 8,300 miles. Assisted in establishing 3 Tract Depositories, owned by Auxiliaries; formed and re-organized

115 other Tract Societies; put into gratuitous circulation 254,000 pages of Tracts, about 83,000 pages of which I distributed with my own hands; preached 244 times; procured 6 life memberships, and commenced efforts for obtaining several others; obtained 43 subscribers to the American Tract Magazine, and subscriptions in all, for the Tract cause, to the amount of upward of \$4,000, chiefly from Auxiliaries for Tracts to be circulated within the two States, a considerable part of which subscriptions have already been paid;

#### *Useful Methods of Gratuitous Distribution.*

In the gratuitous distribution of Tracts, many opportunities were furnished for making a personal application of the truth of religion to the consciences of those who received them. Christ, in the parable of the supper, directs his ambassadors to go out into the highways, and compel the people to come in. With this direction before me, I have made it one object to give Tracts to those whom I met by the way, and to converse with them about the salvation of the Gospel. Many travellers and families removing still farther to the West, as well as families living upon the public roads, have thus received some of your interesting publications, accompanied also with a word of Christian advice. At my appointments for preaching, even when the formation of an Auxiliary was not the particular object in view, I have taken occasion, generally, at the close of the meeting, to explain the design of your Society, and to distribute Tracts among my hearers. You would have been pleased to witness the eagerness with which they were generally received. My usual practice was, to lay a quantity of Tracts upon the table, and inform the people that after the meeting was dismissed, they might take one each, or one to a family, according to the supply which I had with me at the time.

#### *Eager Reception of Tracts.*

I have often been delighted to see the old and the young, after the benediction was pronounced, press toward the table, with extended hands to receive the Tracts. If there happened not to be enough to furnish all, the inquiry was anxiously made, can you not part with a few more. After the bustle of receiving them was over, you would hear a hum of voices, and see persons in every part of the room, and about the door, wholly taken up in reading the Tracts. Some would read them through before leaving the place, and exchange them for others.

#### *Objections Obviated.*

It was interesting to hear the remarks of the people on these occasions. One would say, "I never saw a Tract before." In a different direction you would hear another telling those around him that he used to think Tract Societies were designed to make money; but he was now convinced that it was not so. One after another would come forward and subscribe and become members of an Auxiliary, and inquire when they could get their Tracts. The conductor of a newspaper in Tennessee, informed me that he went to the courthouse, where I had an appointment to preach and form a Tract Society, with a full determination not to subscribe, nor let any of his family

do so. After hearing the statement that was made, he changed his resolution, put down his own name, and the names of his children, and was active in persuading his neighbors to become members of the Auxiliary. He kindly offered to publish the proceedings of the meeting, the constitution adopted, and any other article on the subject of the American Tract Society which I might wish to have inserted. I found that the enemies of religion had circulated false reports respecting your Society, which rendered it necessary for me to improve every opportunity to explain the principles upon which it is formed and conducted. I have heard many frankly acknowledge that they had been mistaken in their opinion respecting the object of this Institution, and under the influence of this mistake had withheld their co-operation. It was gratifying to see those who had heretofore stood aloof from this benevolent enterprise, come forward as its advocates and supporters.

*Necessity of diffusing Information.—Argument for Monthly Distribution.*

Permit me here to make a remark on the importance of having the public more generally informed respecting the object of your Society. There are multitudes who never see either your Annual Report or your Magazine. Preachers of the Gospel would render essential aid to the Society by discussing the subject before their people; and Agents will find it no small part of their work to enlighten the public mind, and erase the unfavorable impressions made by misstatements from the enemies of truth. The Tracts themselves, when circulated among the people, have the effect to dissipate the prejudices of the uninformed, and for this, as one reason, among others, I have urged upon the friends of the cause the importance of a *monthly distribution*. Eight of the most active Auxiliaries, in my field of labor, have resolved to distribute Tracts in this systematic manner. Many others, it is confidently believed, will follow their example.

*Usefulness of Tracts.*

Though but comparatively few Tracts had been circulated in Alabama and Tennessee previous to 1829, yet I heard of as many as *twenty-four instances of hopeful conversion* through their instrumentality, as well as many other instances of external reformation: so evident is it, that the blessing of God attends the exertions of those who are engaged in this cause. Who can estimate the value of these immortal souls; and who can tell the number that will go from those two states, and rejoice eternally on Mount Zion in consequence of what your Society has recently done for that region of country!

*Want of additional Laborers.*

The field in which I labored is in many respects a highly interesting one. The people generally are distinguished for hospitality. There are scattered over this field many very active Christians: these I heard frequently lamenting that there were so few preachers of the Gospel to occupy such an extent of country. They were highly pleased with the object of my agency, and engaged in the Tract cause

with a commendable zeal. Applications for preaching were very frequent. I sometimes preached in places where the people told me they *had not heard a sermon for six months*. Not unfrequently did they urge me to tarry a few days, and preach to them; but such was the nature of my business that I could not tarry, and I found it necessary to deny many such requests. The question was repeatedly asked, if I would not come and live among them, or procure some one to preach to them the words of eternal life. There is surely (whatever some may say to the contrary) a great want of preachers in Alabama and Tennessee. In those denominations which do not employ circuit-riders, the preachers often have charge of four, and sometimes five churches each, and can preach to them only about one Sabbath in a month. There are also churches which have no stated preaching, not even once a month. This deficiency, it is true, is in part made up by circuit preaching. But this circuit preaching can only to a very limited extent come on the Sabbath, when the people are at leisure, and when it is important that they should attend divine worship. If we were to say nothing about the qualifications of many who call themselves preachers, but should admit that they were all well furnished to the difficult and responsible work of the Gospel ministry, it would even then be no misrepresentation to say that the two States above mentioned are *not half* supplied with preachers of the Gospel.

*Bible, Sabbath School, and Temperance Cause.*

There is also a great want of Bibles in those States. Considerable has indeed been done recently by the formation of Bible Societies. I heard of as many as 50 such Societies; attended the annual meeting of several, and assisted to form one. Yet I heard individuals who had the means of knowing, say that in some large sections of country, as many as one half of the families were still destitute of the Scriptures. In Tennessee a class-leader was found who had no Bible, and there is but little reason to suppose that the members of his class were any better supplied.

Sabbath Schools are becoming more interesting and numerous than they were a few years ago. I had the pleasure of visiting and addressing 21, and heard of 55 more which it was not convenient for me to visit.

The cause of Temperance in that region is evidently progressing. At a Presbyterian camp-meeting in Alabama, Dr. Beecher's six sermons on intemperance were read in the intervals of preaching. They were listened to with interest by a numerous audience; and at the close of the reading about 60 individuals came forward and pledged themselves, by enrolling their names, that they would use no more ardent spirits. I heard of 26 Temperance Societies in the two States; was present at the meetings of several, and heard of the reformation of a number of drunkards through the exertions of the friends of the cause.

*Four days' Meetings.—Revivals of Religion.*

From all that I saw and heard it appeared to me that the cause of evangelical religion is rising in that part of our country. I attended

12 sacramental meetings, and found them occasions of peculiar interest. These meetings generally continue 4 days in succession. A number of preachers attend them, and individuals from the neighboring churches, where the distance is not too great, also go up to meet their Lord at the feast. At several of these meetings there was something resembling a revival of religion. But what is to be much regretted, at the close of the meeting the people are left for a long time without preaching, and the attention subsides. I noticed the same also at the three Presbyterian camp meetings which I attended. They were still and solemn meetings. No disorder was witnessed, but the season seemed like one continued Sabbath. The whole time from morning till night being taken up in religious exercises, the world and its cares were wholly excluded from the mind. In a country like that, where the people live at a considerable distance from each other, camp-meetings, when properly conducted, are no doubt the means of great good.

In addition to what I saw at these meetings I had the pleasure of preaching in two places where there were interesting revivals. It is the custom of many of the preachers in that region, in a time of religious excitement, to request all who feel anxious on the subject of religion, and wish the advice and prayers of God's people, to take seats together in a particular part of the house. It was affecting to see numbers, sometimes many, rising and coming from every part of the assembly, with tears in their eyes and taking their seats among the anxious. After they were seated the minister gave them an exhortation, and offered a prayer with particular reference to their case. Your Agent was called to address 6 such circles of anxious souls while in the Valley of the Mississippi. He attended also 30 prayer meetings; 5 monthly concerts; 90 other religious meetings of different denominations; visited 4 missionary stations among the Indians, and 3 schools connected with these missions.

*Indispensable importance of the Tract cause at the South and West.*

I saw many things in that part of our Zion which should excite Christians to more importunate prayer and more vigorous exertion. The Lord is evidently blessing the labors of his faithful servants. The harvest truly is plenteous, but the laborers are few; and it becomes the duty of all Christians to pray the Lord of the harvest, that he would send forth laborers into his harvest. There is much, very much, yet to be done in those states; and not a little of it, dear Sir, will fall to your Society. *The Gospel can be preached, through the medium of Tracts, to the whole population of that country.* These silent preachers can easily find their way along the course of every river and valley, and into every corner in the mountains.

*Argument for the Tract cause, from the diversity of denominations.*

There is one fact, which more than any thing else convinces me that your Society has yet much to do in diffusing the blessings of salvation over that extensive region. I refer to the fact, that the community there is split up into such a great variety of denominations. There are 4 or 5 varieties of Baptists; 2 of Presbyterians; 2 of Metho-



dists. There are also the Seceders; the Lutherans; the Covenanters; the Unitarians; the Universalists; the Roman Catholics, &c. Persons of different religious opinions live in the same settlement, and it is only a few favored spots where there are enough evangelical Christians of any one denomination to support the uninterrupted ministrations of the Sanctuary. To such a state of things the publications of your Society are happily adapted. Being free from every thing sectarian, instead of exciting the jealousy of the different denominations, they are calculated to strengthen the bonds of brotherly love among the friends of truth, and make them feel that they are disciples of the same Master.

*Opposition from the Enemies of Evangelical Religion.*

Such denominations as deny the fundamental doctrines of the Gospel will, and do, speak against the circulation of Evangelical Tracts. So do the infidel, and the atheist, of which there are some, would to God I could not say many, in Alabama and Tennessee. A vigorous moral conflict is already going on in that country. There is a waking up of all parties. The friends of truth and the advocates of error are taking sides. Things are coming to a crisis, and that soon, throughout the whole Valley of the Mississippi. The powers of darkness are on the alert, and seem determined to make this great Valley their battleground. Let Christians go forth to meet them, not with carnal, but with mightier weapons, drawn from the armory of Heaven, and fight valiantly the battles of the Lord.

*Powerful motives to redoubled effort.*

Let every Christian in the land be summoned to prayer and to effort, and let all the benevolent institutions of the day redouble their exertions, and send forth ministers, and Bibles, and Tracts, and Sunday School Teachers, in ten-fold greater numbers than heretofore. Let the patriot too participate in this enterprise, for his country is deeply interested in the issue of the conflict now going on. Religion, patriotism, philanthropy, every thing dear to man as an inhabitant of earth, or a candidate for heaven, unite their claims, and call upon us to act, not for the present generation merely, but for generations unknown. Now is the time for action. If we wait a few years the enemy of God and man will have increased his forces and intrenched himself in many a strong hold, where he can carry on successfully the work of death, and it may require centuries to dislodge him.

I rejoice to learn that you are sending forth Agents in some portions of the West, to effect the systematic and stated distribution to every family willing to receive Tracts. *Would to God that your Society had the ability to sow the precious seed of divine truth monthly over the whole of that immense field.* What consequences would result from such a measure; what happiness would it confer on millions, and what a revenue of glory would it bring to God! Can it be that there is a Christian or a patriot in the land who is unwilling to contribute something as the means of producing such a result? A heavy responsibility is resting upon us all in regard to this matter. The Lord grant that we may feel it in all its weight, and rouse to action.

## EXTRACTS FROM THE ADDRESSES

*At the late Anniversary of the London Religious Tract Society.*

We had hoped, under this head, to have furnished our readers with the address of the REV. DR. MILNOR, the substance of which is received in the London "World;" but are forbidden, by his special request, that his addresses in London should not be re-printed from public records of the meetings, on account of the inaccuracy of the reporters.

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## DIFFUSION OF LIGHT AMONG CATHOLICS.

THE REV. D. STUART, one of the Secretaries of the Irish Evangelical Society, said, if any evidence were wanted to prove the efficiency of various societies in Ireland, it was to be found in the fact, that the Roman Catholic hierarchy and priesthood, generally, had been compelled to follow their example. If Protestants established Education Societies, the people would be educated, and the Roman Catholics had been compelled to establish their Education Societies. (Applause.) If Protestants had their Bible Society, the people would read the Bible, and the Roman Catholics had been compelled to stereotype an edition of their translation of the Scriptures. If Protestants had their Religious Tract and Book Societies, the people would read, and the Roman Catholics had been compelled to form their Religious Tract and Book Societies. With regard to the Catholic publications, he, as a consistent Protestant, and, as he trusted, a humble disciple of the Lord Jesus Christ, could not rejoice in their dissemination; but he considered the establishment of these societies might be fairly looked upon as one of the "signs of the times," and while Protestant publications, based upon the unadulterated Word of God, went forth into conflict with those of the Catholics which were opposed to the vital essential doctrines of the Sacred Book, believing in the omnipotence of truth, they (the Protestants) could have no fear, through God's Spirit aiding them, as to the result. It had pleased Almighty God himself, in giving his word at "sundry times and in divers manners," to give it to the fallen race of Adam in the form of Tracts; and he would mention, as an interesting fact, a circumstance that came under his own observation, illustrating the mode in which God's providence often mysteriously co-operated with the designs of his mercy in the accomplishment of the purposes of his love.

The Rev. Mr. S. then related the circumstances attending the conversion of a Roman Catholic, through a fragment of the New Testament, who had now, for many years, been a humble disciple of the Lord Jesus Christ.

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## AGED BLASPHEMER CONVERTED.

THE REV. J. BODDINGTON (of Horton) said he had been connected with a Religious Tract Society, established in a large village, three years. During the last year it had been distinguished by a signal in-

stance of God's mercy, which he would detail. One of the distributors, in the course of his labors on the Sabbath, had been in the habit of calling at the house of an old man about 70 years of age, who was at that time laboring under a very painful disease, but who had been living during the whole of his life entirely ignorant of the Gospel, and was a great blasphemer of the sacred name of Jesus. His wife and daughter were animated by a different spirit, and were anxious to read the Tracts. The old man consented, but when he received the Tracts it was always with so much ill temper and moroseness as greatly to distress the distributor, whose mind upon one occasion was so powerfully operated upon by that conduct, that he determined to pass the house without calling. When the Sabbath returned, and the hour arrived for resuming his labor of love, he determined upon making the subject a matter of special prayer, and fervently to supplicate God to soften the heart of that veteran in sin. His mind became composed, and he determined to prosecute his labors whatever the consequence might be. The old man met him as usual at the door, and he put into his hand a Tract "On the comparative Value of Time and Eternity." The word "eternity" arrested the man's attention, and induced him to peruse the Tract, which issued in leading him, as a penitent sinner, to the foot of the cross. From that period he became thoughtful, and his nights were spent in restless anxiety, lamentation, and mourning. His wife supposed that his distress arose from the painful disorder under which he labored; but he would give no answer to the questions addressed to him, having determined to conceal his convictions. At length the power of divine grace was eminently illustrated, and he was compelled to disclose to his wife the cause of his distress, which arose principally from the thought that, having so long neglected the divine ordinances, there was now no mercy for him. It was at length determined that his case should be made known to the young man who had distributed the Tract, and who was eminently pious. The old man told his tale of woe with many tears, wept bitterly over his past life, and entreated him to pray for him and with him. The disease under which he labored was making rapid progress on his constitution, but his sincerity and devotedness to God were strikingly exhibited. As he approached nearer to eternity, the name of which had roused him from his lethargy, he was visited by several pious persons, who testified to the efficacy of the blood of Christ. The disease proved fatal, but he left the clearest evidence of having died in the Lord, one of the last proofs of which was the following. *He sent for the Tract distributor, and told him, as a dying sinner on the verge of eternity, never to grow weary, never to be discouraged, never to desert the honorable post he occupied, on account of the difficulties and obstructions which he met with in the way, adding that, had it not been for his perseverance and Christian kindness, in all human probability he would have died as he had hitherto lived, "without God, and without hope in the world:" but that now he rejoiced in Christ Jesus as his Savior.*

The above fact is a delightful illustration of the usefulness, under the Divine blessing, of the *systematic monthly distribution*; when persevered in by a faithful Tract Distributor.

The Rev. J. DYER addressed the meeting in reference to the intolerable censorship of the press in Hanover, Germany, where a respected Secretary of the Society was assured by a police officer that the distribution even of the Dairyman's Daughter would subject him to imprisonment—and all this in a Protestant and Lutheran community.

The Rev. S. WILSON, from the Mediterranean, stated numerous facts, showing the success of Tract operations in that part of the world, particularly in Malta and Greece.

The Rev. W. H. STOWELL, among other things, noticed his personal obligations to the Religious Tract Society, having had his mind first impressed with religion by reading its Tract "*Serious Thoughts on Eternity*." Since that time he had felt it to be his duty to distribute religious Tracts, and make himself useful to his fellow-creatures. Among other instances of the success which had attended his efforts to do good by circulating Tracts, he mentioned that of a young man who had been converted to God, and had become extensively useful as a Sunday school teacher, and subsequently as a missionary and a preacher of the Gospel.

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### USEFULNESS OF TRACTS.

#### TRACT "POOR SARAH" BLESSED TO A PHYSICIAN.

As I was dining, says an officer of the American Tract Society, with a pious family in Connecticut, a very respectable physician present said to me, "I ought to be a friend of Tracts, Sir. It was the Tract *Poor Sarah* that first arrested my attention to the concerns of eternity. I did not feel easy on the subject for about six months, when I indulged a hope, and made a profession of religion." He now labors to benefit the souls as well as the bodies of his patients, often praying with the poor and distressed, and directing them to that great Physician of souls who can administer to them consolation in all the circumstances of life, in death, in judgment, and in eternity.

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#### "TRACT 'SABBATH OCCUPATIONS' THROWN FROM A STAGE."

Two Ladies, says a devoted friend of the Tract cause in Connecticut, were passed by the stage on a Sabbath morning, when a passenger, more zealous it would seem to inculcate the proper observance of that day upon others than to sanctify it himself, threw from the stage the Tract entitled *Sabbath Occupations*. It was taken up by one of the Ladies, (who had neglected to read the Tracts she had received from an Auxiliary Society,) and was read, and read again and again, with solemn and attentive interest. She requested others frequently to read it to her. She has obtained peace in believing, and nothing she says would tempt her to feel as she did before reading that Tract.

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#### THE TRACT AND THE PEACH ORCHARD.

A gentleman, formerly a member of my church, (says a clergyman,) being on a visit to a friend, expressed much anxiety to return

home within a given time, as he had a large orchard of peaches, which he wished to gather for the distillery. His friend remonstrated with him; but it availed nothing; he must go and gather his peaches for the distillery. "Well, if you must go," said his friend, I will give you a Tract to read, and presented him *Kittridge's Address*. He accepted it, and read it; and soon after sent word to his friend, that instead of carrying his peaches to the distillery he had given them to his hogs, and further, that he had resolved never again to *suffer his mill to be used to prepare grain for the distillery*.

## AMERICAN TRACT SOCIETY.

### PAINFUL DEFICIENCY OF PECUNIARY MEANS.

The receipts of this Society from May 1, to September 15, have amounted only to \$10,136 86 for Tracts sold, and \$1,965 12 in donations: total, \$12,101 43

This amount is less than the receipts of the preceding year during the same period, by the sum of \$9,586 18

The deficiency in the receipts has been such that the Committee have been compelled to raise from the banks, on their own personal responsibility, to meet dues since August 1, the sum of \$4,300 00

And notes of members of the Committee, including the last mentioned sum, are now outstanding, which must be paid previous to January 1, to the amount of \$9,430 50

By an actual inventory of the Society's means, presented in the last Annual Report, it is shown that (exclusive of the house furnished by citizens of New-York, in which the Society's operations are conducted,) the whole that it possesses, including all dues for Tracts sold on a credit, is only equal to the value of the publications in its General Depository, its stereotype plates, engravings, paper, and other materials in use in transacting its concerns. It has no permanent funds. Its publications are actually sold AT COST—i. e. the whole amount received into the Treasury for such as are sold does not exceed the amount expended in issuing them and bringing them into circulation.

And it can increase the number of its publications, and consequently the stock in its General Depository; and can sustain its Agents in exciting an interest in the churches, and extending its operations, especially at the West and South; and can make grants of Tracts to the destitute, in this and foreign lands, *ONLY by the whole amount thus expended being contributed in the free donations of those who love this cause.*

We beg the followers of the Lord Jesus to examine the above simple and definite *statement of facts*.

We beg those who are entertaining a vague idea that our Benevolent Societies are abounding in means, to examine it.

We beg those whose hearts have been rejoicing, from month to month, at the multiplied evidences of souls converted to Christ by means of Tracts, to examine it.

We beg those who have looked over our country and seen the wide openings for Tract circulation, of unparalleled interest, especially in all the new and destitute settlements, to examine it.

We beg those Branch and Auxiliary Societies, which might contribute *at least a small donation annually*, and might, with some exertion, always pay for the Tracts they order, on delivery, to examine this statement.

We beg those Ladies who might constitute their pastors-directors and members for life, and have not done it; and those individuals who might contribute donations, large or small, to sustain this Society, *prayerfully to examine this statement of facts.*

We make no comment. We pray God to enlarge the hearts of his people, and warm them with love to his cause; and that the glorious spread of the knowledge of a Redeemer upon this apostate earth may not be hindered.

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### MONTHLY TRACT DISTRIBUTION.

This good work is going on very extensively in our country. It is impossible now to specify the places from which we have received the gratifying intelligence of souls converted, churches strengthened, and the cause of Christ advanced, through its instrumentality. The more the influence of this work, if performed by faithful distributors, is examined, the more does it appear to be in fulfilment of the command to carry the Gospel to "*every creature.*" There are very few families comparatively, even in the New Settlements at the West, in which some one of their members cannot read—and for such families, can Christians of our favored land do less than to go and read to them a Tract, and tell them the simple story of the cross?

We wish all who look at this system of effort to consider *three items of good* which it occasions—the good done by the Tracts distributed—by the spiritual conversation, prayers, or other *personal labors of the Distributors*—and in the promotion of active piety and growth in grace in the hearts of the *Distributors themselves.*

We pray those who love the Lord Jesus to consider *when* this world will be converted to him, unless private Christians, male and female, come forward and co-operate with faithful ministers in carrying the Gospel to the *fireside* of those who feel not its value, and never enter the sanctuary where it is publicly proclaimed.

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### RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

No. 239. *Alarm to Distillers and their Allies.*—A premium Tract. By Rev. Baxter Dickinson. pp. 12. This Tract is based on the principle that the *production* of the destroying element must cease before Temperance will be universal; and the duty of ceasing its production is urged upon the distiller and him who furnishes the materials, with no loss of words, in a manner, the force of which every man who has a conscience will be constrained to feel.

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*Card*—"To Gentlemen." On Profane Swearing; being the six lines of Cowper. "It chills my blood to hear the blest Supreme," &c. Price 1 cent for 5, or 20 cents per 100.

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*Donation from England.*—The Committee gratefully acknowledge the receipt of the stereotype plates of *Pike's Persuasive to Early Piety*, 360 pp. 18mo. &c. as a donation from "*An English Baptist.*" This excellent work was sometime since approved by the Publishing Committee, and will be immediately put to press.

# **RECEIPTS**

## **INTO THE TREASURY OF THE AMERICAN TRACT SOCIETY,**

*During the month ending September 15, 1830.*

<b>FROM AUXILIARY TRACT SOCIETIES.</b>		<b>For Tr.</b>	<b>Don.</b>
MASS.—Boston, American Tract Society, J. Tappan, Esq. Tr.	15 50		
R. ISL.—Newport, B. S. Cahoone, Sec.	40 00		
CONN.—Brooklyn, (Windham Co. Aux.) E. Newbury, Ag.	10 00		
Norwich, 1st Soc. in S. School, Fem. Miss E. C. Lathrop, Sec.	3 75	1 25	
N. YORK.—Auburn, Clark B. Hotchkiss, Tr.	16 00		
Port Edward, Zadock Wheeler, Esq. Pres.	5 02	1 33	
Goshen, Orange Co. Dr. J. S. Crane, Tr.	6 00		
Greenville, Fem. Miss Hannah Hicock, Sec.	8 00		
Hudson, Fem. Mrs. Root, Tr.	3 75		
Hunter, E. J. Stimpson, Sec.	20 00		
Monroe, Orange Co. Benjamin C. Smith, Tr.	4 25		
Schenectady, Isaac Ledyard, Tr.	40 00		
Schoharie Kill, Fem.	5 00		
Stuyvesant, Columb. Co. Fem. Mrs. Frances W. Wright, Sec.	7 50		
Troy, Charles Lyman, Tr.	40 00		
Utica, Edward Vernon, Sec.	254 00		
N. JER.—Bloomfield, Juv. Robert R. Kellogg, Sec.	7 14		
Kingston, Fem. Jane K. Comfort, Tr.	2 56		
Morristown, Fem. Mrs. Lewis Mills, Tr.	7 50	2 50	
New Brunswick, Abraham Suydam, Tr.	6 42		
Newton, Juv. Jonathan F. Shafer,	6 00		
Paterson, Juv. Rev. Samuel Fisher, Pres.	2 00		
Princeton, Fem. Miss F. W. Morford, Tr.	10 00		
Westfield, Fem. Mary Pierson, Sec.	2 25	5 00	
Woodbridge, Fem. H. B. Barton, Sec.	2 14		
PENN.—Erie, Fem. Emily Wight, Sec.	15 75	5 25	
Honesdale, Wayne Co. Stephen Torrey, Sec.	4 00		
M'Connellsburg, M. Augustus Jewett, Sec.	8 12		
N. CAR.—Raleigh, Rev. P. W. Dowd, Sec.	20 00		
Salisbury, Michael Brown, Tr.	40 00		
ALA.—Huntsville, Samuel Coltart, Ag.	20 00		
TENN.—Jackson, George Cromwell, Tr.	191 68		
Memphis, (Shelby Co. Aux.) Littleton Henderson, Tr.	10 00		
Nashville, Samuel B. Snowden, Tr.	130 00		
KEN.—Lexington, Luther Stephens, Ag.	145 00		
OHIO.—Cincinnati, Henry B. Funk, Tr.	30 08		
Delaware, Alexander Anderson, Ag.	10 00		
Newark, Rev. C. P. Bronson, Sec.	11 50	3 50	
Putnam, (Muskingum Co. Aux.) Edwin Putnam, Ag.	130 00		
Sandusky City, Joseph Darling, Ag.	10 00		
MICH. TER.—Ann Arbor, Fem. Harriet G. Mills, Sec.	5 00	2 00	
Dexter, Fem. Miss Orpah Williams, Sec.	6 00		
<b>SOCIETIES NOT AUXILIARY.</b>			
N. JER.—Elizabethtown, Union, J. J. Bryant, Tr.	13 76		
DIS. COL.—Georgetown, Juv. in S. School, Christ Church,	7 00		
VIR.—Fredericksburg, Prayer Book and Tr. Soc. R. T. Thom, Tr.	3 74		
Tracts sold at the Depository to individuals, (including \$50 for use of room,)	369 73		

<b>Director for Life.</b>		CONN.—Coventry, A Friend, 50 cts.—J. H. 40 cts.	90
DIS. COL.—Washington City, Walter Lowrie, Esq. . . . . \$100 00		N. YORK.—New-York city, Mrs. Jerrett,	2 00
<b>Members for Life.</b>		PENN.—Mount Pleasant, Asa Smith,	3 05
CONN.—Plainfield, Mrs. Surviah Hinkly, (in full of \$20,) . . . . . 15 00		VIR.—Norfolk, C. K. Stribling, Esq. . . . .	5 00
TENN.—Nashville, Samuel B. Snowden, (in full of \$20,) . . . . . 10 00		S. CAR.—Columbia, Mr. William Shear,	10 00
<b>Annual Members.</b>		OHIO—Jeromeville, J. M'Combs,	50
CONN.—Middletown, N. Bacon, 2 00			
VIR.—Eastrville, Wm. G. Smith, 2 00			
<b>Other Donations.</b>		Whole amount of Donations,	\$198 19
"A Friend to the Tract cause," by Rev. E. W. Crane, . . . . . 20 00		Received for Tracts sold,	1,706 06
"A Friend," . . . . . 6 91		<b>Total,</b>	<b>\$1,904 25</b>

# THE AMERICAN Tract Magazine.

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VOL. V.]

NOVEMBER, 1830.

[NO. 11.]

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See Tract No. 211, "To Parents."

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## REPORT

### OF A SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON THE EXTENSION OF TRACT OPERATIONS IN PAGAN LANDS.

THE following Report, presented to the Executive Committee of the American Tract Society, claims the attention of all who desire the advancement of the Redeemer's kingdom.

The Committee appointed to consider "what openings there may be in Divine Providence for extending the Society's operations in foreign countries," having corresponded with all the Missionary Societies in our country known to be engaged in promoting the spread of the Gospel among the Heathen, and having sought, in other ways, to obtain such information as would aid them in discharging the duty assigned them, would present the following as the result of their examinations.

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WHOLE No. 56.



It is, your Committee believe, the unanimous testimony of all who have been long and successfully engaged in efforts to spread the Gospel among the Heathen, that if any people are to be thoroughly enlightened and evangelized, THE PRESS must be resorted to as a very prominent and powerful instrumentality. Hence we find there are not less than *forty printing presses* in connexion with Missionary stations in pagan lands. The living teacher finds it essential, not only to instill his instructions into the ear of the pagan, but to embody them permanently on the printed page, where they may be daily examined and riveted in the mind.

The teaching of the young in schools, which can only be done efficiently through the medium of the press, is one grand means of access to the minds of the heathen; and the printed portion of truth, by being distributed at festivals, and on other public occasions, may be conveyed to thousands and hundreds of thousands who can never be brought within the sound of the missionary's voice. The few pages of a Tract also, are found, in multitudes of instances, to arrest the attention, where the entire volume of the Scriptures would lie neglected.

Your Committee cannot but consider farther, that the work of diffusing the Gospel among the millions of the pagan world is one of such magnitude as to demand the united energies of the Christian church, and that Bible and Tract, as well as missionary Societies, should take part in it, each in their appropriate sphere. An interest in the conversion of the Heathen will thus be more universally diffused, and each of these institutions may share in the blessings of laboring for their good. In accordance with these views, the British and Foreign Bible Society has been, from year to year, lending a most vigorous aid in the evangelizing of pagan nations. Its appropriations for this object, the last year, exceeded \$60,000; and the whole number of languages and dialects in which it has aided in printing and circulating the Bible is now 146. The American Bible Society has, in a similar manner, extended its operations abroad, though less the last year, on account of the noble effort in which it has been engaged in our own country. The Religious Tract Society of London extends its aid, by grants of Tracts, money and paper, to all the principal British missionary stations among the Heathen. It appropriated, the last year, 900 reams of paper for India, and in all not far from \$14,000 in foreign grants; and has aided in publishing Tracts in *forty-eight different languages*.

The American Tract Society has, since its formation, appropriated \$450 for Tract operations in Greece, \$200 for Ceylon, \$600 for Burmah; and has printed 640,000 pages in Hawaiian for the Sandwich Islands; and the Committee are not aware that any portion of the Society's funds has been more usefully expended.

*Communications from Foreign Missionary Societies.*

In answer to letters addressed by your Committee, the Society of the United Brethren have expressed their grateful acknowledgments for the aid this Society has already afforded in small grants to their missionaries, especially of Tracts in the English, Spanish, and German languages; and though unprepared immediately to define the amount of aid which will be needed in connexion with their stations,

they will most heartily embrace the co-operation of this Society in their arduous labors to disseminate the Gospel.

The Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society of the Protestant Episcopal Church express their grateful sense of the kindness of this Society in the inquiries proposed to them by your Committee, and have made application for grants of Tracts in various languages for Liberia and the Mediterranean, which have already been delivered, to the amount of 150,000 pages, and also for a further appropriation in money for their mission in Greece.

The American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions have communicated the following definite information relative to the principal stations under their charge.

"At the presses in *Bombay*," says their communication, "there were printed, during the year 1828, besides portions of the New Testament, Hymns, &c., 284,000 pages of such works as would come within the province of the Tract Society to distribute. The two presses there might probably print 3,000,000 pages annually, of which, excluding portions of the Scriptures, one half would properly come within the sphere of the Tract Society's labors. The missionaries, in their last joint letter, express their sense of the importance of distributing Tracts, the wide field open for their distribution, and their present inadequate supply." It is estimated, that, with the aid of the three additional laborers, who have recently embarked for this mission, in translating and distributing, "there might be annually circulated from that station 1,600,000 pages of Tracts, the expense of which would be not far from \$1,500."

In respect to the mission at *Ceylon*, the same communication says, "The population on the island, and on the adjacent continent, speaking the Tamul language, is very great, (estimated at 11,000,000,) and easily accessible. They receive Tracts readily, and to a considerable extent with eagerness; and there seems to be a state of mind prevalent peculiarly favorable to their receiving benefit in this manner. The missionaries can prepare Tracts, and the members of the seminary, the teachers and superintendents of the Free Schools, and the native church members generally, furnish great facilities for sending them, under favorable circumstances, to all classes of the people. Probably \$1,000 annually might be usefully appropriated for Tract operations in connexion with this mission."

A communication from this Mission, addressed to your Secretary, fully confirms the above statements; expresses great gratitude for your donation of \$200, and states that it arrived at a time when their press was on the point of being stopped for want of funds. "*No method of doing good in Ceylon, or India,*" they add, "*is so promising, with the same sacrifice, as the distribution of Tracts.*" They are better adapted for general circulation than even the Scriptures, among such a population as we find here, who read but little; and they feel not the sun, and sink not under the climate, as does the living missionary."

"The missionaries at the *Sandwich Islands* say they can prepare matter for printing 600 reams, or 6,566,400 duodecimo pages annually, of which one half at least will be matter proper for the Tract Society to print. The desire of the people for religious books, and the

extensive and extending ability to read are well known. *No Tracts or books remain in the Depository there*—they are immediately distributed and read. The people are prepared to receive and be benefited by a whole circle of religious reading. Appropriate, say, \$1,500 annually for Tract operations."

"As to the *Mediterranean*," the same communication says, "there was published at the Malta presses during the year 1829, 2,793,000 pages, of which 2,073,200 pages were suitable matter to be published by the Tract Society." More than 60 Tracts in Modern Greek, more than 40 in Italian, and "21 in Turko-Armenian have already been printed, and it is expected the way will be opened by the contemplated mission to Armenia for extended distribution there. By the revival of the mission in Syria the way is opened for commencing the printing and distribution of Tracts extensively in Arabic. The adjustment of the affairs of Greece, and the stipulation for a toleration of all forms of Christianity, will probably afford opportunity for greatly increasing the circulation in that country. We have no hesitation in saying that the American Tract Society might advantageously appropriate \$1,500 annually to this mission."

The Rev. Jonas King, in a letter to the American Tract Society, dated Tenos, February 15, informs, that he had then distributed 200,000 pages of Tracts, chiefly in schools in Greece; having received from the Malta press Tracts to the value of \$134 furnished by the funds of this Society.

As to the *Cherokees*, Mr. Thompson, missionary at Carmel, in April last, wrote as follows:—"Why could not a few thousands of small Handbill Tracts be printed for distribution among this people? If the friends and supporters of missions could see with what avidity the copies of Matthew's Gospel and the hymns were received and perused by them, I am sure they would say, Give them more. Such Tracts would cost but little, and thousands of them could be put into the hands of as many thousand Cherokees, who could and would read them. I think the minds of the people are prepared to receive instruction with great facility from small portions of Scripture and other appropriate matters printed in the form of Tracts." Probably 8 or 10 Tracts might, to good advantage, be printed and circulated among this people in editions of 1000 or 2000. Appropriate, say \$300."

The Board of the Baptist General Convention, to which \$600 has been recently appropriated by this Society for Tract operations in connexion with their mission in *Burmah*, among the 17,000,000 of whose population it is a most interesting fact that the ability to read is generally diffused, express great gratitude for the aid which has already been afforded to that station. They do not now specify the amount of aid which will be required at that station in future, but request supplies of English Tracts, to be distributed in connexion with their missions at Liberia, at the Sault de St. Marie, and among the Cherokees, which have been granted to the amount of 45,000 pages.

*China, Hamburg, and South America.*

The two missionaries from this country laboring in China, to whom 40,000 pages were appropriated at the time of their departure, will doubtless need additional aid in their Tract operations.

A communication from the *Lower Saxony Tract Society*, located at *Hamburg*, representing the severe civil and ecclesiastical tyranny with which that Society is called to contend, under which a member of the committee was compelled to pay 56 marks as the penalty for meeting at his own house about 20 friends to read the Bible and sing and pray, expresses their great want of pecuniary means, and adds, "How would our hearts rejoice if our transatlantic brethren could give us, in any way, some assistance!"

The Rev. William Torrey, of *Buenos Ayres*, has for two years circulated there, in English and Spanish, near 100,000 pages of this Society's Tracts annually. In a late communication, accompanied by a Spanish translation of the *Young Cottager*, he states that many thousand copies of the Tracts of the London Religious Tract Society have also been circulated there, and adds, "It is now quite common for those who have received some Tracts to return for more, and for those who have read one of each kind to inquire for new ones. No dissatisfaction with the Tracts has come to my knowledge from any quarter, except with a Tract containing the decalogue, which was by one family denounced as heretical, because it embraced the second commandment."

The Rev. Mr. Thompson, who has for some time been laboring in *Mexico*, states, that 6,000 Spanish publications, chiefly small books for children, received by him from the London Tract Society, and advertised in the principal newspapers, *were all sold in Mexico in a single week!* In a letter addressed to the London Society soon after, he requests them to send to Mexico 4,000 copies of each kind of Children's Tracts in Spanish which that Society had then published.

The Rev. Messrs. Torrey and Thompson both represent, that Narrative Tracts, and especially if neatly printed, with engravings, and in a large type, and sold at a reasonable rate, would find an extensive and an increasing circulation in South America.

*Summary Result of the above Information.*

If we assume the above estimates of the appropriations needed in connexion with the several missions, as far as specified, to be correct: viz. for Bombay, the Sandwich Islands, and the Mediterranean, \$1500 each; for Ceylon \$1000; and for the Cherokees \$300; and add to these, for missions connected with the Moravian and Episcopal Churches, each \$500; for those connected with the Baptist General Convention \$1500; for China \$300; for South America \$500, and for the West India Islands, British America, and other fields for Foreign distribution \$400, we have a total of \$9,500 annually which this Society might usefully appropriate for foreign countries.

Your Committee are of the opinion that, though this amount may be greater than would be actually employed within a year, if immediately appropriated, yet were it known to our brethren who are laboring at the various stations that such an amount could be annually

appropriated, they would immediately enlarge their Tract operations and find useful opportunities to employ the whole amount and more. And were this Society to enter with energy on this work, your Committee believe it might thus be instrumental in very widely diffusing the Gospel among the Heathen, awakening a spirit of inquiry, preparing the way for the Bible and other missionary labors, and of doing a work which in the day of judgment would tell in the salvation of a great multitude of souls.

The Executive Committee have referred this important subject for consideration at their next meeting. Their only source of embarrassment is *the want of pecuniary means*. We entreat those who desire the conversion of the pagan world to make those contributions to the Society for foreign operations, without which these important openings cannot be occupied.



## USEFULNESS OF TRACTS.

If any friend of the Tract cause has had a less vivid impression of its usefulness than in months past; and has been left to become remiss in his endeavors to convey these messages of salvation to every family and soul, we pray that the cheering facts which follow may arouse him to duty, and that kindred results may be found to accompany his own exertions.

### TRACT BLESSED TO A GENTLEMAN IN GEORGIA.

A merchant in Georgia says, As an influential man from an adjoining county was passing our store, somewhat disguised with liquor, I gave him Kittredge's Address. He recently called on me, adverted to the circumstances, and said he had since not only drank no ardent spirit, but the Tract had been the means of bringing him seriously to think of his soul's great interest.

### THE TRACT "HEAVEN LOST."

The Secretary of an Auxiliary in Clinton Co., N. Y., thus writes: "A young lady, whose mind had been previously excited to reflection on her lost condition as a sinner, realizing her utter helplessness, was almost in despair of mercy, considering her state unalterably fixed, when the Tract *Heaven Lost* came to her hands. She was much impressed with the sentiment contained in the *second verse of the hymn on the cover*; and with a desire that the request contained in it might be granted her, she read the Tract. While reading, her feelings were greatly changed. She discovered that she had previously had no just views of God's mercy, nor of herself as a sinner. She now believed God to be both able and willing to save all that would come unto him. She resolved to give herself up to God and plead for mercy, and she then experienced that love to God and Christians which she before knew nothing of; and her heart was led out in prayer and praise to him for his mercy. She has since united with the church in this village, and appears to be an humble and consistent Christian."

## THE TRACT "TO A PERSON ENGAGED IN A LAWSUIT."

A gentleman in Connecticut had become engaged in a legal contest, from which neither the persuasions of friends nor the entreaties of his wife could induce him to desist, when a pious neighbor received a letter for him from his attorney. Presuming it was on the subject of the pending controversy, he inserted the Tract *To a person engaged in a lawsuit* within the folds of the letter, and presented it without comment. A few days afterward, meeting the man to whom he had carried the letter, he took him aside, saying, "Now tell me how that book came to be in the letter you handed me. I supposed my lawyer sent it, but he denies knowing any thing about it. I now think it must have come from you. It was precisely adapted to my case. *I went the next day and paid the sum required—the contest is at an end—and I feel much better than I did before.*"

## THE TRACT "MORE THAN ONE HUNDRED ARGUMENTS," &amp;c.

About six months ago, says the Boston Recorder, a pious lady in this city sent the Tract "*More than One Hundred Arguments for the Divinity of Christ*," to a friend in a neighboring state, desiring that he would give it a prayerful perusal. He has informed her that the Spirit of God has blessed it to the opening of his eyes on the glorious character of our Lord Jesus Christ and the great atonement through his blood for perishing sinners.

The same lady has since received a letter from another friend to whom she sent the same Tract, saying that he should have cause of everlasting gratitude for what God had done for him by the reading of that Tract: that he had heretofore looked on the Savior as merely man, and consequently with a guilty indifference, but now he sees him to be God over all, God manifest in the flesh, for his redemption, and humbly hopes he has been brought to love and adore him with his whole heart.

## CHILD'S TRACT BLESSED TO AN AGED SINNER.

Within the bounds of every religious congregation, says a clergyman in Connecticut, there are some who neglect the means of grace, and come to maturity without hope and without God in the world. They can scarcely be allured to the house of God on any occasion, and spend the Sabbath in idleness and sin—haters of religion, and persecutors of the saints. A man of this description, who had a pious wife, carried his enmity toward religion so far as to enter the praying circle and drag her forcibly away. He remained in this desperate state of mind till a Sabbath School was formed in the neighborhood, with a small library. Very unexpectedly he permitted his children to attend. One of them brought home a small Tract in miniature shape, containing the History of the Conversion of a Little Child. This Tract lay on the table, and one rainy day, to the astonishment of his wife, (for he never read a book of a religious kind, not even the Bible,) he took up the Tract and sat down to read. Before he had finished reading he arose in an agony of feeling, and left the house. He was in

great distress in view of his past life, abandoning at intervals the hope of mercy, for a number of days, when he was released from the bondage of iniquity, and found all things new. On learning the tidings of his marvellous conversion, I called one evening to see him : it was the hour of evening prayer. The sound of his voice, mellowed by penitence, humility and joy, as it reached me on the threshold, while reading a portion of Scripture applicable to his former condition, I can never forget. It is about two years since, and his life has been that of a humble and sincere believer.

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#### TRACTS PRESENTED TO A FAMILY OF GERMAN EMIGRANTS.

A gentleman in New-York city, says, Just as the steam-boat had left the wharf for Philadelphia I stepped into the steamboat office, where I observed two or three families, men, women, and children, who had arrived a day or two before from Germany, but were detained from want of the requisite funds from pursuing their journey. Most of the children were walking the room in the habit of their country ; but one lay sick on a bed carelessly thrown on the floor. Having one German Tract only with me, No. 32, "*To all who Would be Saved,*" I presented it to a woman about forty years of age standing near me. She gazed on it and on me. All was silent, as neither of us could understand the other. The title caught her attention and she began to read. I watched her ; she sighed and turned her face from me, wiped away the tear that stole in her eye, and again proceeded. It was more than she could bear ; the Tract fell from her hand and she burst into a flood of tears, and continued sobbing until I left her. My friend who was then with me visited them again a few hours afterward ; she was still reading the same Tract. He presented her another ; "*The Sinner directed to the Savior.*" In reading this she was, if possible, more deeply affected than before. Whether she was convinced of sin and felt her need of a Savior, eternity will disclose.

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#### TRACT "BLIND ELLEN" BLESSED TO A YOUNG LADY IN VIRGINIA.

Mrs. E., an intelligent and pious lady, says an Agent of the American Tract Society, informed me of a young woman in Virginia who was much benefited by the perusal of a Tract. She was very much alarmed at her condition as a sinner, but knew not where to seek relief. Information of her state of mind was communicated to Mrs. E. by a negro servant, through whom she sent her several Tracts, and among them *Blind Ellen*. About six weeks after this Mrs. E. received a letter of thanks from Miss C., stating that the above named Tract had been the means, as she hoped, of bringing her to the knowledge of the truth as it is in Jesus, and of leading her to trust in him as her Savior.

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#### TRACT BLESSED TO A MAN FISHING ON THE SABBATH.

A minister and a student of divinity, in going on a Sabbath day to visit the inmates of a hospital, observed on a bridge, which they crossed, an illiterate foreigner, to them a total stranger, engaged in

fishing. They presented him a Tract. He said he could not read. One of them proposed reading it to him; to which he assented. It was a Tract of four pages. By the time it was half read, accompanied by a few passing remarks, the fisherman began to haul up his hook out of the water; and when the reading was finished, although not a word had been said directly against Sabbath-breaking during the interview, nor was the Tract on the subject of the Sabbath, he said spontaneously and feelingly, "I will never fish again on Sunday."

### AMERICAN TRACT SOCIETY.

The Report of the Committee on the openings for the Society's operations in foreign parts, though occupying a considerable space in our present number, will repay the attention of the reader, and cannot fail to convey an impression of the magnitude of the work in which the Society is called to labor.

In our next we hope to insert some very encouraging facts, showing the usefulness and importance of the *Monthly Tract distribution*.

The REV. CYRUS W. ALLEN, the Society's devoted Agent in Missouri and Illinois, having been suddenly attacked with a fever, which brought him to the borders of the grave, the excellent missionary in whose family he was received and treated as a brother, has made a communication, showing that his sickness was occasioned by excessive labor and exposures, and stating that, from June to September, Agents in that part of the country must not ride under the burning sun at noon, nor in the heavy damps of the night.

### MUST THE WORK MOST HAPPILY BEGUN, BE NOW RELINQUISHED?

The followers of Christ, in laboring for him, are bound to *persevere*, even amid gloom, and discouragement, and persecution and death. And shall it ever be written of Christians of our day, when God is blessing all their exertions, "They were prompt in beginning noble enterprises, but their zeal did not endure. Objects grand and attractive were eagerly commenced; but, with their novelty ceased the efforts for their promotion. One vigorous impulse was given at the onset—the work called done—and deserted!"

Followers of Christ, if there is *any danger* that this shall justly be said of us, there is not a dollar of *all* our substance—not a nerve of our arm—nor an emotion of our hearts, that must not immediately be put in requisition for that cause for which alone we live. There is great responsibility somewhere in reference to *sustaining*, as well as commencing, benevolent efforts; and it rests on every Christian. It rests upon him *now*—it rests upon *himself*—he cannot transfer it to others—it challenges now, *his own personal labors*, and *pecuniary contributions*, and unceasing, wrestling *prayers*.



These remarks have a forcible application to the state of the existing efforts of the *American Tract Society in the Valley of the West*. Much of that wide field has been explored—the activity of Christians, where they exist, on the one hand; and the moral wants, on the other, of the multitudes inhabiting the New Settlements and living without the Gospel, are ascertained—there are *but few families comparatively in which at least some one member cannot read*—Tracts are very generally received with much thankfulness and joy—God is blessing them in the conversion of many souls—and yet it is the opinion of those laborers in this cause who have been longest in the field, and have had the best opportunity to judge, that *not more than one fourth part of the population West of the Alleghany mountains have been yet supplied with so much as one Tract to a family*.

And the question now recurs, shall this work, in this stage of it, be relinquished, or suffered to decline? The hand of God is manifestly in it. Every thing conspires to animate the churches to carry it forward. Four new Agents have just entered the field, two of them, it is hoped, as permanent laborers; and the only obstacle that now presses upon the Society is the want of *pecuniary means*. These, for some months, have been unequal to the Society's expenses, and must be very much increased, and that speedily, or the labors of the Society be greatly abridged. We appeal to those who can feel for the wants of Zion—who have a heart to pray, and to contribute and to labor for her advancement, and ask whether this Society shall fail of support, now when its prospects of usefulness are greater than ever before.

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#### LEGACIES.

An able communication has been received from *Dr. J. Scudder*, American Missionary in Ceylon, urging upon every Christian the duty of giving some portion of his earthly substance, *by legacy*, to the principal Institutions of the day, for spreading the Gospel; and annexing, as an incitement to Christians in his native land, a list of the sums which the respective members of the church at Panditerpo, consisting chiefly of converts from the Heathen, have agreed to bequeath to the cause of benevolence at their death, amounting in all to 414 rix dollars; each engaging that they will, on that account, give nothing less for the same cause during their life.

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#### NATCHEZ, (MI.) AUXILIARY TRACT SOCIETY.

The First Annual Report of this Society is published, in connexion with a rich and valuable discourse in favor of the Tract cause by the REV. GEORGE POTTS, of Natchez. If clergymen in our other large towns would, on the occasion of the anniversaries of Tract Societies, thus publicly advocate their claims, a very great good would be accomplished.

The Natchez Society has 10 Auxiliaries, which have remitted, during the year, the noble sum of \$792 79. Donations from individuals during the year, \$680. Total receipts \$1,667 87. Sold, during the year, 448,520 pages; besides 633 bound volumes; 2,553 Children's Tracts; 3,908 Broadsheets and Handbills; and 4,000 Christian Al-

manacs; gratuitously distributed 55,859 pages to boatmen, wagoners from the interior, &c. The Board bear their testimony to the excellence of the system of *Monthly Distribution*, which has been prosecuted for several months in Natchez.

Would to God every Auxiliary in the country were as active as this has been during the past year.

#### METHODIST TRACT SOCIETY.

The Fourth Report of the Tract Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church, was presented in the city of New-York, July, 1830. New Auxiliaries recognized during the year, 22; making the whole number of Auxiliaries, recognized since the formation of the Society, 175. Number of pages issued during the year, 3,065,507.

A writer in the *Christian Advocate* and *Journal* shows, that the Rev. John Wesley was active in the distribution of Tracts in 1754, and was the author of several; and claims that the gratuitous circulation of Tracts originated with Wesley, and not with the Infidels of France.

#### PREMIUM TRACTS.

The undersigned hereby gives notice, that a benevolent individual has placed at his disposal the sum of *fifty dollars*, to be awarded by Rev. Charles P. M'Ilvaine, of Brooklyn, and Rev. Joel Parker and Rev. Joshua Leavitt, of New-York, to the author of the best Tract, "*To all persons engaged or interested in the navigation and transportation upon Canals and Rail-roads;*" which shall not exceed eight pages in length, and shall be presented on or before the first day of February next. It is desired that the Tract shall have a special bearing in favor of the observance of the Sabbath.

The manuscripts should be each accompanied by a sealed envelope containing the name of the writer, and may be addressed (*post paid*) to

WILLIAM A. HALLOCK, 144 Nassau-street, New-York.

A premium of \$50 is also offered for the best Tract *On Prayer*, to be awarded by Rev. Dr. Fay, of Charlestown, and Rev. Dr. Edwards and Rev. Mr. Green, of Boston. The manuscripts to be presented on or before January 1, 1830, and to be addressed to Mr. Aaron Russell, 25 Cornhill, Boston; or William A. Hallock, 144 Nassau-street, New-York.

A premium of \$50 for the best Tract for *Servants*, has been awarded to the manuscript with the initials S. W.

The manuscripts on the Importance of the Gospel, its Ministry, its Sabbath, &c. are now under consideration.

No one of the manuscripts *on Duelling* was considered of such decided excellence as to merit the award of the premium offered.

#### RECEIPTS

##### INTO THE TREASURY OF THE AMERICAN TRACT SOCIETY,

*During the month ending October 15, 1830.*

FROM AUXILIARY TRACT SOCIETIES.		For Tr.	Don.
VER.—Middlebury, E. Brewster, Ag.		42 45	
MASS.—Monson, Young Men's, Dr. George White, Sec.		16 00	
Do. Fem. Miss Olivia Flynt, Sec.		14 58	4 85
Pittsfield, Fem. Miss Amelia Danforth, Tr.		4 00	
Springfield, Solomon Warriner, Jun. Tr.		25 23	
Stockbridge, Moses Fairchild, Tr.		1 75	
R. ISL.—Newport, B. S. Cahoone, Sec.		2 47	
CONN.—Brooklyn, (Windham Co. Aux.) Edwin Newbury, Ag.		10 00	
Huntington, William Mills, Sec.		15 10	7 00
Jewett City, Fem. Mrs. Maria P. Morgan, Sec.		2 00	
N. YORK.—Bainbridge, Fem. Mrs. Cynthia Minger, Sec.		4 80	
Bridgehampton, Rev. Amzi Francis, Pres.		1 07	

	For Tr.	Don.
Buffalo, Orlando Allen, Tr.	25 00	
Deposit, Delaware Co. (New Soc.) H. Dusenbury, Tr.	12 14	
Gouverneur, Fem. Mrs. Lucina Parsons, Pres.	3 00	
Jamaica, L. I. James Rider, Tr.	4 26	1 42
New Rochelle, Fem. Hannah Brewster, Sec.	1 06	3 00
New-York City Tract Society, Alfred Edwards Tr.	70 00	
Do. by Fem. Aux. Mrs. J. R. Hurd, Tr.	53 75	
Rochester, Monroe Co. Levi A. Ward, Tr.	100 00	
Rochester, Ulster Co. S. School Aux. Rev. B. B. Westfall, Pres.	13 20	
Stockton, Miss Sarah Johnson, Tr.	6 44	
Troy, Charles Lyman, Tr.	15 00	30 00
Utica, Edward Vernon, Sec.	50 00	
N. JER.—Baskingridge, Horace Sheldon, Sec.	2 25	75
Bloomfield, Juv. Robert R. Kellogg, Sec.	5 20	
Kingston, Fem. Miss Jane K. Comfort, Tr.	18 31	
Mendham, Fem. Miss Ruth Dayton, Tr.	2 00	2 00
New-Brunswick, A. Suydam, Tr.	2 32	
Princeton, Nassau Hall, E. Piersen, Sec.	39 07	
Ramapo, David C. Chrystie, Esq. Tr.	2 00	
Somerville, Fem. Mrs. Sophia Talmadge, Tr.	6 25	
PENN.—Erie, Fem. Emily Wight, Sec.	4 79	
Philadelphia Branch, Frederick Erringer, Tr.	1000 00	
VIR.—Buffalo, Fem.		3 90
Prince Edward Co. Union Theol. Seminary, Aristides S. Smith, Sec.	16 10	
Shady Grove, Brunswick Co. Burwell B. Wilkes, Pres.	10 00	
Winchester, Daniel Gold, Tr.	40 50	
Do. by their Fem. Aux. Wickliff,		3 00
S. CAR.—Charleston, S. Car. Branch, Rev. John Dickson, Gen. Ag.	50 00	
OHIO.—Columbus, Rev. James Hoge, D. D. Ag.	30 00	
Granville, Rev. Jacob Little, Pres.	16 00	
Vernon, (Trumbull Co. Aux.) Rev. Harvey Coe, Sec.	21 00	
MISSOURI—St. Louis, W. S. Olmsted, Tr.	30 00	
MICH. TER.—Tecomseh, Lenawee County, Fem. Mrs. Mary D. Finch, Tr.	3 12	
SOCIETIES NOT AUXILIARY.		
CONN.—Warren, Temperance Soc. Lucius C. Rouse, Tr.	2 16	
N. YORK.—Dunkirk, Union Tr. Soc. J. Van Beuren, Tr.	2 40	
Orange Co. S. School Union, J. Wells, Ag.	1 60	
Tracts sold at the Depository to individuals,	204 34	

## Members for Life.

## Other Donations.

CONN.—Glastenbury, David Hubbard, (in full of \$20.)	\$10 00	MASS.—Fero, Oliver Nash,	1 00
N. YORK.—Gouverneur, Mrs. Lucina Parsons,	20 00	CONN.—New-Haven, Jeremiah Atwater,	5 00
Montgomery, Orange Co. Miss Hannah M. Condit, by her father, Rev. R. W. Condit, (in full of \$20.)	10 00	N. YORK.—East Bloomfield, Ladies,	5 00
New-York City, Edward S. Hill,	30 00	New-York City, Mr. James Roosevelt, in part, for perpetuating "Bunyan's Pilgrim's Progress,	100 00
Southampton, L. I. Rev. Daniel Beers, by Ladies of his Church and Congregation,	20 00	Owego, Tioga Co. Wm. Platt, Esq.	10 00
Vernon, Oneida Co. Rev. Aaron Garrison, by Ladies,	20 00	MO.—Ewingsville, Rev. Finis Ewing, for Lower Saxony Tract Society, Hamburg,	20 00
VIR.—Winchester, Miss Anna D. Holliday, by a Friend, (in part of \$20.)	5 00	The above list contains donations—	
OHIO—Mary Ann, Licking Co. David Moore, (in part of \$20.)	10 00	For aiding the Lower Saxony Tract Society, Hamburg,	
		In part, for perpetuating Bunyan's Pilgrim's Progress,	

## Annual Director.

N. YORK.—New-York City, Dr. J. E. B. Rodgers,

Whole amount of Donations,	\$346 92
Received for Tracts sold,	2,002 71
Total,	\$2,349 63

# THE AMERICAN Tract Magazine.

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[NO. 12.]

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## GUIDE TO THE SYSTEMATIC MONTHLY TRACT DISTRIBUTION.

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THE systematic Monthly Distribution of Tracts, in connection with other labors performed by the Distributors for the spiritual welfare of the families visited, has been so successfully adopted in numerous places in our country, and has so extensively arrested the attention of Evangelical Christians, that the Committee of the American Tract Society have been induced to prepare this document as a guide and encouragement to such as engage in this work.

*The work more arduous and more useful than will probably by many, at first, be apprehended.*

We have no hesitation in saying, that this work claims the serious attention of all the followers of Christ, and to be viewed by them in its various and immensely important bearings. Especially should its nature and influence be faithfully examined and considered by *all who are to be engaged in it*; that they may bring to it qualifications and efforts corresponding with its magnitude, and which, by the blessing of God, shall ensure success.

### *Nature of the Work Explained.*

It is a first principle of the Gospel, that it is a MESSAGE TO BE CARRIED AND TENDERED "TO EVERY CREATURE." The public preaching of the commissioned Minister is doubtless the prominent means of its diffusion; but great multitudes, even in Christian lands, attend on no stated preaching of the Gospel; and to many who do thus attend, it is the undivided testimony of the devoted ministers of Christ, that *personal religious conversation at the fireside* is the means blessed by the Holy Spirit in bringing them to God. It is generally agreed

also, in all Protestant Evangelical churches, that every professor of religion has personally important duties to perform, both in communicating the tidings of salvation to those who are far from God, and in the building up of Christians in their most holy faith. The filling up of all this great department of labor is involved, to some extent at least, in the work now under consideration.

*Three distinct departments of usefulness involved in this work.*

1. *The good accomplished by the Tract itself.* "By this method of distribution," as has been remarked by one of the most intelligent and active clergymen of the age, "that great object is effected of bringing Divine truth into contact with men." In the miscellaneous methods of distribution, a great portion of the population receive no Tracts at all; and many who are supplied, receive them in circumstances far less favorable to their being read, than if presented in the peace and quiet of domestic life.

"The method," as another very eminent man in the churches has said, "is admirable, as it gives out successively small portions of truth at intervals: one Tract this month, and another the next, and another in the month succeeding: always new, and never enough to satiate"—like the "Tree of Life, bearing twelve manner of fruits, and yielding her fruit every month; and the leaves of it are for the healing of the nations."

2. *The good done by the Distributor incidentally*; by personal religious conversation, and the various other means specified on a subsequent page, under the head of "Duties of the Distributor."

3. *The spiritual benefit to the Distributors themselves.* No greater blessing can come upon the churches, than that all their members should be brought, with prayer to God and earnest longings for the eternal welfare of men, to engage actively in labors for their salvation. This system of effort enlists many in such a service. It calls them to the exercise of Christian self-denial; acquaints them with the spiritual wants of the souls around them; causes them to feel their dependence on God, and to plead with him for the gift of the Holy Spirit to attend their efforts; rouses them from their supineness and inactivity; and trains them for glorious warfare, as a host of God's elect.

*The work commended to Auxiliary Tract Societies.*

On the Officers of Branch and Auxiliary Tract Societies, wherever they exist, devolves appropriately the responsibility of conducting this work; and to it we would invite their special attention. If entered upon and prosecuted with proper energy, in dependence upon

God, there will be few places in which a sufficient number of Distributors and an adequate amount of funds cannot be obtained.

*Ladies may prosecute the work successfully.*

Except in large cities and towns, there is no obstacle to the entire prosecution of this work by Ladies; as their efficiency and success in sustaining it hitherto, in numerous places in our country, abundantly testifies.

*Concentration of Responsibility.*

It is an important item of this system of effort to assign to each individual his own appropriate sphere of labor, in which there shall be no division of responsibility. Hence each Ward, or division, is assigned to one Superintendent, each District to one Distributor, &c., who is alone responsible for the duties referred to him.

*Necessity of System and Punctuality.*

In this work so many wheels are set in motion that unless the system of efforts be well digested and arranged, some of them will fail of moving, and the whole machine become disorganized. To proceed with system will also, beside securing success, greatly abridge the labor required. We cannot therefore urge too strongly upon all who shall engage in this work to mature their plans, to bring every part of the system into operation under the most favorable circumstances, and sustain it with the strictest punctuality. With this view we hope the following hints may not be without their use.

**DUTIES OF THE SOCIETY, OR BOARD, OR COMMITTEE BY WHOM  
THIS WORK IS UNDERTAKEN.**

1. *Appointment of Superintendents.* The first question to be determined is whether the portion of country to be occupied is so large as to require more than one superintendent, and if so, how many. In supplying a town or village, embracing within its limits but one or two thousand souls, only one superintendent may be necessary; in supplying a county, one will be required to each town or village; and in large cities, one to each Ward. The requisite number being determined, faithful and qualified individuals should be appointed to this office, to constitute, if more than one, the "Monthly Distribution Committee"—a service which may well command the efforts of the best men in the churches, and from which none should excuse themselves unless imperiously forbidden by Providence, or conscious that others, whose efforts can be secured, are better qualified for its successful discharge. Every consistent measure should also be taken

that each Superintendent may fully understand and appreciate the work to be performed, and feel its responsibility.

2. *Appointment of a Committee for selecting the Tracts.* It has been considered an essential item of this system of effort, to distribute copies of the same Tract in each month, throughout each city, town, or village. This being done, the distribution may be continued, from year to year, without presenting the same Tract twice to any. The appointment of a Special Committee for selecting the Tracts will be useful, as particular Tracts may be, at different times, more especially appropriate to the state of a people, and as it is indispensable that the Tracts for successive months be ordered and procured in time for the distribution. To secure this object it will be advisable for the Committee to select and order Tracts beforehand for several months' distribution; especially if they obtain them at the Depository of a Branch, which may be unable to furnish them without ordering a fresh supply from the Parent Society. It will often facilitate the procuring of Tracts to specify several, from which the proper number may be forwarded of such as the Depository of the Branch may contain.

8. *Procuring of Cards of instruction for the Distributors, blank Reports, &c.* On the cover of this document may be found a copy of a Card of instructions "to a Monthly Tract Distributor;" blanks of a Distributor's and Superintendent's Report; and a blank notice for a meeting of Distributors; all of which may be obtained at the General Depository. The first mentioned Card it is especially desirable should be placed in the hands of every Distributor, as many will be liable to perform their work superficially, from a partial view of the duties it involves.

Each Superintendent should also be furnished with a blank book in which he may keep a permanent record of his proceedings.

4. *Meetings to hear the monthly results.* The appointment of a stated religious meeting at which the results of each month's distribution may be presented to the friends of Zion, will do much to excite a general interest in this work, and to stimulate those engaged in it to punctuality and faithfulness.

#### DUTIES OF THE "MONTHLY DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE."

This Committee should meet statedly at the expiration of the time designated for each month's distribution, to receive the reports of the respective superintendents, which should be brought together by the Secretary of the Committee in a suitable form to be presented at a meeting of the friends of the cause, or to be laid before the public in such manner as may be thought expedient. This Committee, in view

of the facts communicated in the superintendent's reports, should constantly devise means for rendering the work in the highest degree successful; and see that it is faithfully prosecuted throughout the entire field committed to their charge: that no Tracts placed in the hands of Distributors may remain undistributed, and no families fail of being supplied.

#### DUTIES OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF A WARD OR DIVISION.

1. *The territory explored and divided into Districts.*—The territory assigned to a Superintendent should be carefully explored and divided into Districts; each of which, in its location and the number of families it embraces, shall be convenient and suitable to be occupied by one Distributor. These Districts, in the dense population of a city, may embrace 50 or 60 families each; in a more sparse population, a less number.

2. *The Districts numbered and defined.*—The Superintendent should draw for his own use a map of his entire Ward, or Division, on which the several Distributors' Districts should be accurately defined and numbered. Small maps of the Districts may then be drawn to be placed in the hands of the respective Distributors, each numbered as on the Superintendent's map, and having its boundaries so accurately defined that the Distributors shall not be exposed to mistake their appropriate fields of labor.

3. *Superintendent's Book.*—In the blank book furnished the Superintendent, he should insert, in a legible form, to be always convenient for reference—

(1.) A map of the Ward or Division, with the Districts defined and numbered.

(2.) A tabular list of the Districts, their boundaries, and the Distributor to whom each is assigned, thus:

<i>No. of the District.</i>	<i>Boundary of the District.</i>	<i>Distributor's Name and Residence.</i>

(3.) A tabular list of the Districts, with the results of each month's distribution, as reported by the Distributors, thus:

January,		183			Feb.		183
<i>No. of the District.</i>	<i>Whole No. of Families.</i>	<i>No. of Fam. supplied.</i>	<i>No. of Fam. refusing.</i>		<i>No. Fam.</i>	<i>Fam. sup.</i>	<i>Fam. refusing.</i>

The Superintendent's Book, thus prepared, will show him, at a glance, how many male and how many female Distributors are employed; where each Distributor resides; by what Distributor any given District or family is supplied; how many Tracts each Distributor will require for his District on a succeeding month; and the results of the Distributors' Reports being added together, he will have



the whole number of families in the Ward or Division, the whole number supplied, and the whole number refusing.

Some Superintendents, it is feared, will think it too tedious to prepare such a book as we have described, but it can be prepared in a single evening; and the results of the Reports of each month being accurately entered, it will save him much time, labor, and inconvenience.

**4. Qualifications requisite in Distributors.**—The Superintendent should consider that the ultimate success of this work must depend, in a very high degree, upon the qualifications of the Distributors. They will be called to address persons of every grade and character in the community, and, in some sense, to represent before them the Tract cause and the cause of Zion. If qualified for their work and faithful, they may do very much to allay prejudice and gain an access for the Gospel to those who have hitherto rejected it. They should possess a good degree of intelligence, some acquaintance with society, a spotless reputation; but above all should be persons who have drunk deep into the spirit of Evangelical piety; who have a knowledge of the Scriptures, a heart full of love to the souls of men, a spirit of prayer, and humble dependence on God for direction in the path of duty, Christian self-denial, mildness and forbearance; that they may be an example of the meekness and love of the Gospel they commend, and themselves an "epistle" to be "known and read of all men." It will be a bright day to the Christian church when all those, whether male or female, whom God has distinguished with gifts and qualifications, shall account it a privilege and a duty to be found faithfully engaged in such a service.

**5. Obtaining the Distributors.**—In no place are faithful and qualified Distributors more likely to be found than in the prayer-meetings connected with the several Evangelical churches. The Superintendent may attend these prayer-meetings, and with the aid of the Pastors of the churches with which they are connected, present before them the nature and usefulness of this work, and the duties to be performed, particularly as described in the Card "To a Tract Distributor;" and may then take the names of such suitable persons, male or female, as are willing to become Distributors; usually referring to Gentlemen such Districts, if any, as embrace a very vicious and profligate population. In some cases it may be judged preferable to invite a special meeting of those who may be expected to become Distributors, or to call on such persons individually at their own places of abode.

**6. Monthly meeting of the Distributors for prayer.**—It will be found eminently useful to obtain a meeting of the Distributors each month, either immediately before commencing their distributions, or immediately after the expiration of the time in which the distribution is to be performed, for prayer and mutual edification and encouragement in this work. Here each individual may freely express the impressions on his own mind; the spiritual satisfaction or benefit derived; the most successful methods of performing the distribution, &c. Such meetings which, if thought desirable, may be held in connection with the meeting above referred to for receiving the monthly results of the

distribution, will be found very pleasant and profitable, and essential to promote the success of the work.

7. *Condensed view of the monthly results.*—This should be prepared by each Superintendent in time to be presented at the meeting of the "Monthly Distribution Committee," or at such other meeting as may be held to receive the results of each month's distribution; embodying the statistical results of the several Distributor's reports, such interesting facts as shall have been communicated by them in writing or verbally, and whatever else may have occurred to his own mind as important to be communicated.

8. *Punctuality in the Superintendent.*—This will be essential, as the Distributors will be likely in this respect to look to him for an example. He should see that the Tracts are furnished on or before the first day of the month, and fail not to obtain a report from each Distributor immediately after the 15th, that all may understand that the distribution cannot be postponed beyond the time appointed.

#### DUTIES OF THE DISTRIBUTOR.

The success of this system of effort, as already intimated, depends, more than upon any other one point, on the manner in which each Distributor occupies the District assigned him. If he merely leaves a Tract at the door of the several families in the District, without explaining the nature and design of the distribution, or doing any thing further for their spiritual welfare, the grand objects for which he engaged will, to a great extent, be lost; and it might have been better, had he never assumed the responsibility of becoming a Distributor, and filling a station which, if occupied by others, might have been the means of incalculable good.

Before commencing the work, the Distributor should see that his own heart is duly impressed with the worth of the Gospel and the value of the soul; and should become familiar with the Tract he is to distribute, and with the instructions contained in the Card "to a Monthly Tract Distributor." He should see the heads of families and explain to them the richness and excellence of these publications; that the object of their distribution is purely benevolent; that the distribution is *gratuitous*; that it is made to *all* willing to receive Tracts; and that the heads of Christian families and those in affluent and easy circumstances, should receive and read them, not merely for the benefit of themselves and their households, but as an encouragement and an example to others. He should avail himself of the opportunity afforded by the presentation of the Tract for introducing religious conversation, as Providence may permit; recommending the perusal of the Scriptures, attendance on public worship, placing the young in Sabbath, Infant, and other schools; and in every way promoting the welfare of the families visited, for this world and the world to come. Especially will such opportunities of usefulness occur in visiting these

in the humble walks of life—the poor, the ignorant, and the suffering—who should be sought out with great care, however obscure their condition. To such as cannot read, the Tract, or portions of the Bible, may with great profit be read; and with many opportunity will be afforded to engage in prayer. The object, in respect to all, should be to proclaim to them “*Jesus Christ and Him crucified*,” as the only Savior of sinners, and persuade them to give their hearts without delay to Him. In this view of the duties of Tract Distributors, what, in the great day, will appear to be the responsibility of those who suffer the Tracts, procured by sacred charity, to lie in their hands undistributed, or send them by the hands of some one utterly unqualified for these duties? Every Distributor should be careful to present his report in time, that the work may not be incomplete through his means, and should add a notice of such interesting circumstances as have occurred, the value of which will be much enhanced by their being presented in writing.

#### DUTIES OF MINISTERS OF THE GOSPEL IN RELATION TO THIS WORK.

It is confidently believed that every minister of the Gospel who is watching for the souls of men, when the nature and influence of this work are fully understood, will not only give it his cordial approbation, but feel that, in the omission of it, one grand means of good to the souls around him is neglected. He will see many living far from God, whose attention might be arrested by Tracts; many who absent themselves from public worship, on whom he will wish the monthly Tract Distributor to call and invite them to attend; many whom some Christian should converse with relative to their souls' salvation, and toward whom his multiplied engagements forbid himself discharging the duty. And he will also see around him many a professor of religion, whose soul is languishing and mouldering in inaction, and whose spiritual good might be greatly advanced by his engaging in such a service. He will be ready to instruct his flock as to the nature and usefulness of this work, and the best methods of its performance; to animate them to discharge it faithfully; and plead with God for his Spirit to direct and bless their endeavors. Such a co-operation in this effort, it is hoped, every minister of Christ will feel it to be his duty and privilege to give.

#### THIS SYSTEM OF EFFORT EQUALLY ADAPTED TO BE USEFUL IN CITY AND COUNTRY.

This work, though commenced in one of our large cities, is found equally adapted to be useful in other portions of the country. Souls are as precious where the population is more sparse, as in the crowd-

ed city; and generally, we apprehend, are more susceptible of moral and religious impression. The Distributor must, indeed, travel farther, and occupy more time, in visiting an equal number of families; but in our most sparse settlements, families are not so distant that it is not our duty to carry them the Gospel; and it is in such settlements especially, that the stated ministrations of the sanctuary are not enjoyed. It is doubtless our duty to convey the Gospel to the most distant Heathen, and surely we may reach those comparatively in our own neighborhood. Our Savior came down *from heaven* to bring us the tidings of salvation, although it carried him to the cross, and sunk him into the grave; and who of his followers shall account it too great a sacrifice to go a few miles to carry the same tidings to his fellow-men, and tender them to their acceptance with earnestness and tears?

#### BRANCHES AND AUXILIARIES OWNING DEPOSITORIES.

Branches and Auxiliaries owning Depositories may further this work by ordering, from the General Depository, a large supply of a number of Tracts appropriate for the monthly distribution, and giving notice to their Auxiliaries that copies of such Tracts may be obtained for this purpose.

#### OBJECTIONS ANSWERED.

There are two objections that may be raised against this system of effort which are, perhaps, worthy of notice.

*Objection 1. The presentation of a Tract Monthly to Christian families involves a waste of funds.*—To this objection we reply,

(1.) That the Monthly Tract, presented by the hand of a faithful Distributor, has, in multitudes of instances, arrested attention in Christian families, and been read, when the Tracts already in their possession, have been neglected. "In my own family," said one of our most eminent Clergymen, "that little monthly Tract has gained more attention, and been read more, than all the Tracts lying on our shelves." Several instances have already been reported in which members of Christian families have been evidently *converted to God* by the reading of the monthly Tract. But we reply farther by asking,

(2.) Where is the waste in Christians contributing funds by which 12 Tracts every year shall be brought and presented to their own families? If any families professedly Christian purchase no Tracts, and have none, the objection probably would not be considered as applying to them; but all families who supply themselves with Tracts doubtless purchase far more than 12 in each year; and what is the loss to the cause of benevolence, if of the sum contributed by such families annually for the Tract cause, the value of one Tract in each month be returned to them from the hand of the Tract Distributor, to be read and preserved, or distributed as opportunity may offer?

**Objection 2.** *By presenting Tracts to those who are far from religion, we are liable to give offence.* To this we reply,

(1.) That this system of effort does not involve the obtrusion of Tracts upon those who refuse to receive them. Like the message with which the original disciples of our Lord were commissioned, they are offered to all; but if any will not receive them, the messenger proceeds and tenders them to others. But we reply,

(2.) That to adopt the principle that the Gospel may not be offered in any form to those who are not now its friends, is to cut off the Christian church from the entire work of spreading the Gospel. Christ's command, on the other hand, is clear as a sunbeam—to publish the tidings of salvation through his blood to "every creature." The message is to be offered to all, while with each to whom it is conveyed rests the awful responsibility of accepting or rejecting it. We must, therefore, tender it, in kindness and love, to our fellow-men who are far from God. And we must present it again and again, and never sit down in discouragement of winning over Christ's enemies to him, till the whole world is brought into subjection at his feet, or our powers of persuasion and entreaty are palsied in death. Many instances have occurred in which those who, for many successive months, have declined receiving Tracts, have then received them with gratitude and the most subdued feelings.

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### CHEERING RESULTS.

Many very gratifying results of this system of effort have, from time to time, been published in the American Tract Magazine and other religious publications. Want of room permits us here to add only the few brief extracts which follow.

#### *Testimony of a Clergyman.*

A devoted clergyman in a town of 300 families in Massachusetts, where the monthly distribution has been 8 months in operation, after stating that its influence has been very apparent, that he "knows of a number of persons who have come to the house of God in consequence, and that he had just seen a young lady on a sick bed who spoke of the Tract *Do you Want a Friend?* with tears, saying it exactly met her case," earnestly recommends the selection of the best qualified individuals in the churches for Distributors, and adds:

I consider the system as invaluable to the church. If it did no good but to keep the church in motion, that would abundantly pay for all. Our churches are dying from inaction. The only deficiency in this system is, that it does not employ half enough. There is no describing the difference between a church in motion and the same church in inaction. In the one case it is the giant carrying off the gates of the city; in the other, it is the giant sitting down asleep. Every church for its own sake ought to adopt the system of Monthly Distribution immediately.

The system is as important in the country as in the city. In every town there are out-skirts where the low floating part of the population live. They will not come to meeting—will not hear the Gospel. Tracts will reach them and nothing else will; and then it is of vast importance to stir up the public mind once a month, and keep it alive on the subject of religion. The results will be great. I do believe that within three years every church in this country, in which there is a breath of spiritual life, will be organized for the monthly distribution; and then will thousands and thousands of minds now rusting, be roused into action, and then will the *whole nation* have their attention stately and wisely called to the subject of religion; and the effects, I have no doubt, will be seen, by the blessing of God, in great, continued, and powerful revivals of religion.

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*From the Report of the Pittsburgh Tract Society.*

Within the short period "since the Systematic Tract Distribution has been adopted," says this Report, "more of the effective force of Zion has been brought into action than in half a century before. Since the church has adopted this scriptural system of doing good hundreds of her private members have been summoned to her service, who until this period scarcely deemed that their active services were either needed or, if offered, would be accepted. Multitudes who before felt no uneasiness when the summons to missionary devotedness and missionary activity were sounded, or the imperative obligations to "preach the Gospel to every creature" were urged, begin to feel a personal interest in that summons, and tremble at the recollection of their unfulfilled obligations to speed the march of the Gospel. Now, multitudes of Christians who have long sheltered themselves under the excuses of Moses, "O my Lord, I am not eloquent; but I am slow of speech, and of a slow tongue," have found no heart any longer to plead such excuses; as the Tract cause has put into their hands powerful appeals on every important subject.

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*Noble Examples for Imitation.—Geneva Presbytery—Orleans County, New-York.*

A benevolent individual, several months since, proposed to the *Geneva Presbytery, N. Y.* that he would furnish *half the funds requisite for supplying every family within the bounds of the Presbytery with a Tract monthly for six months*, provided the Presbytery would furnish the balance of the means and perform the labor requisite for carrying the work into execution. The Presbytery extends over three and a half counties, embracing about 12,000 families, which is the number of Tracts ordered for each month's distribution. The first half year has now nearly expired; but although the labor of obtaining distributors in numerous destitute towns has been found very great, yet so deeply are the Presbytery impressed with the importance of this work, that they have resolved to prosecute it another half year; and

members have expressed the hope, that *before the close of that period the system will be generally adopted throughout the country.*

Another individual has undertaken the work of supplying the entire county of Orleans, N. Y. containing not far from 3000 families, monthly for a year—dividing it into Districts, obtaining distributors, and furnishing the means, so far as efforts to raise them in the county, which is very destitute, shall prove deficient. Tracts are already ordered for several months, and the work commenced.

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*Conversions to God through this system of effort.*

The Utica Tract Society in their last annual Report say, "We think there is satisfactory evidence, that from *forty to fifty individuals* have been made the subjects of renewing grace, whose first impressions of divine things originated in the blessing of God on the Monthly Tract Distribution."

The Rev. Mr. L., of C., N. Y., says, that as the Tracts *Heaven Lost and Sinners Forewarned* were circulated there, one of them was presented to a very high-spirited woman, the wife of a merchant, who thought herself too good to be called an impenitent sinner. It proved an arrow in her heart—she was brought under very pungent conviction of sin, and at length found peace and rest in Jesus Christ, the Savior of sinners.

Rev. Mr. R., of P., N. Y., states, that two females in that place attribute their conversion to the blessing of God on the monthly Tract *Worth of the Soul*. One of them was a *young lady whose parents are both members of the church, and who had had many Tracts*, but the reading of this led her to see herself a sinner, and at length to betake herself to Christ as the only hope of the perishing. The other is the wife of a deacon of a Baptist church, who trusts she was led to the Savior by his blessing on the same monthly Tract.

At a most interesting public meeting recently held in New-York, at which \$1,950 was contributed to sustain the monthly distribution for the second year, *two very recent instances of conversion* were related: one of an individual whom the Distributor had for some time found anxious on account of her sins, but who had recently obtained peace in believing;—the other the widow of an infidel, who herself avowed her rejection of revelation and scorned to receive a Tract; yet, when the faithful Distributor kindly remonstrated with her, and entreated her not to dash the cup of salvation from her lip, she, after long gainsaying his arguments, consented to receive the Tract *Poor Sarah*, and to attend the next Sabbath on public worship. She was brought to a most heart-rending view of her condition as an enemy of God; and to give herself to him, and now stands a candidate for admission to the church.

## TRACT MEETING IN NEW-YORK.

A public meeting in behalf of the Tract cause in New-York city was held at the Masonic Hall, Broadway, on Wednesday evening, November 17, S. V. S. WILDER, Esq. in the Chair. The Hall was filled at an early hour. Prayer was offered by Rev. Benjamin Rice, and William A. Hallock appointed Secretary of the Meeting.

The following resolutions were then moved and sustained by very able evangelical and spirit-stirring addresses from Rev. Octavius Winslow of the Baptist church, recently from England; Rev. Erskine Mason, Rev. John Woodbridge, D. D., and Rev. William Patton, viz.

*Resolved*, That this meeting recognise the obligation devolving on every Christian to convey a knowledge of the Gospel to "every creature."

*Resolved*, That in reference to the objects of this meeting it is the duty of every person present to feel his individual responsibility, and to act accordingly.

Cards were then circulated, and the sum of \$1954 47 was subscribed and contributed to aid the New-York City Tract Society; and an impulse was given to Tract operations in the city, especially the systematic monthly distribution, which must long be felt by every distributor and every individual of the numerous assembly convened.

The Rev. James Milnor, D. D., recently returned from Europe, then moved the following resolution, which was seconded by Rev. Archibald Maclay.

*Resolved*, That this meeting desire to express their gratitude to God for the blessing with which he has crowned the work of Tract distribution both at home and abroad, and to derive therefrom a fresh incitement to its more vigorous and zealous prosecution.

In supporting the Resolution, Rev. Dr. Milnor gave a most cheering account of the present state of the Religious Tract Society and other Benevolent Institutions in England; the Christian love and confidence in which they are conducted; their fraternal regard to the kindred Institutions of this country; the kindness manifested toward himself personally; and expressed the assurance of his own mind that, notwithstanding the outbreaks of infidelity, and the insidious progress of error in various forms, both in this and the old world, the principles of the pure Gospel of Jesus Christ were prevailing and would prevail, till they shall be embraced and obeyed by the whole family of man.

In the progress of his remarks on his visit to England, he gave the audience the rare treat of reading to them an extract of considerable length from his Journal of his visit to the beautiful *Isle of Wight*, the former residence of the Rev. Legh Richmond, and where lived the Dairyman's Daughter, the Young Cottager, and the African Servant. The Dr. visited the cottage where the Dairyman's Daughter died; saw her brother and her Bible; followed the path in which her funeral procession went, to her grave, where a neat monument has been erected by Christian friends as a tribute to her memory; visited also the grave of the Young Cottager, and the place where Rev. Mr. Richmond met and prayed with the African Servant under the rocks; and with the three Tracts of Rev. Mr. Richmond in his hand, visited most of the scenery therein described, and found it delineated at once with *inimitable accuracy and beauty*.



### TRACT MEETING IN PHILADELPHIA.

An interesting meeting was held in Philadelphia, Oct. 12, in behalf of Tract operations in that city, and of the Pennsylvania Branch of the American Tract Society. Thomas Latimer in the Chair, and George W. Blight, Secretary. After prayer by Rev. Dr. Livingston, statements were made by Rev. O. Eastman, General Agent of the Parent Society for the Valley of the Mississippi, and spirited addresses delivered by Rev. Drs. Livingston and McAuley, and Rev. Mr. Tyng; after which a subscription was opened, which was soon increased to \$1,700.

The premium of \$250 proposed for the best Tract on the questions "Whether the use of distilled liquors, as articles of luxury, or living, or trafficking in them, is consistent with a profession of the Christian religion; and whether the churches of Christ can consistently admit as members those who persist in such use or traffic?" has been unanimously awarded to Rev. Moses Stuart, Professor in the Theological Seminary, Andover.

In our next will be presented Rev. Dr. Milnor's Report of his services, *gratuitously* performed as a delegate from the American Tract Society to the Religious Tract Society of London.

There was due from members of the Committee, on putting this sheet to press, the sum of \$ 7,411 75, which must be paid PREVIOUS TO THE FIRST DAY OF JANUARY NEXT.

### RECENT PUBLICATIONS OF THE AMERICAN TRACT SOCIETY.

No. 240.—PUTNAM AND THE WOLF; OR, THE MONSTER DESTROYED. *An Address originally delivered at Pomfret, Conn., by Rev. John Marsh.* pp. 24. This Tract eminently unites interesting incident with pungency and force, and will be found one of the most effective Tracts on the subject of Temperance which have yet appeared.

No. 241.—ON THE HOPE OF FUTURE REPENTANCE. From the letter of a Father to his Son. pp. 4. The Tract is a moving reply to the son's assertion, "I hope my heart is not fatally hardened, but that I shall yet come to repentance and the enjoyment of religion"—urging the immediate surrender of the heart to God as the only ground of safety.

No. 242.—ARGUMENT AGAINST THE MANUFACTURE OF ARDENT SPIRITS. *Addressed to the Distiller and the Furnisher of the Materials.* By Rev. Edward Hitchcock. pp. 24. In this Tract, which strongly contested the premium awarded to Tract No. 239 on the same subject, the author appeals to the persons addressed as a chemical philosopher—as a physician—as a friend to his country—as a neighbor and a parent, and in behalf of the drunkard's wife and children—and finally as a Christian.

No. 243.—A VOICE FROM HEAVEN. pp. 4. In which select portions of Scripture are in a striking manner presented; showing man's depravity—condemnation by the law—the provision made for him by Christ—and the awful guilt of rejecting him.

No. 11. Occasional. ZINGLIUS, THE SWISS REFORMER. pp. 32. Containing the life of this eminent man—his conversion from Popery through the divine blessing on the study of the Scriptures, and the

commanding influence he was enabled to exert for the diffusion of the pure and precious light of the Gospel.

*In the Press*, and will be issued before the close of the present month, a Diary for the year 1831; 64 pages to a sheet, containing a passage of the Bible, and an appropriate scrap of sacred poetry for each day, with a blank on the opposite leaf in which a brief diary or other memoranda may be noted. Also in the press, "Pike's Persuatives to Early Piety."

## RECEIPTS

### INTO THE TREASURY OF THE AMERICAN TRACT SOCIETY

*During the month ending November 15, 1830.*

#### FROM AUXILIARY TRACT SOCIETIES.

	For Tr.	Don.
VER.—Sheldon, Samuel Wead, Pres.		1 55
St. Albans, Fem. Horace Janes, Ag.	53 45	
Swanton, Franklin Co. Daniel Bullard, Tr.	3 00	4 00
MASS.—Boston, Amer. Tract Society, John Tappan, Esq. Tr. (including \$144 for perpetuating three Tracts for Jews)	980 00	644 00
Pittsfield, David White, Tr.	6 00	
Do. Fem. Miss Amelia Danforth, Ag.	14 00	
Springfield, Solomon Warriner, Jun. Tr.	37 16	
Washington, Berkshire Co. Rev. Caleb Knight, Ag.	3 15	2 62
R. ISL.—Pawcatuck in Westerly, George P. Maxson, Sec.	50	25
CONN.—Bethel, Fem. Mrs. Hannah Starr, Sec.	2 00	2 00
Brooklyn, (Windham Co. Aux.) Edwin Newbury, Ag.	44 00	
Hadlyme, Oziath Holmes, Tr.	1 90	5 70
Hartford, Conn. Branch, Charles Hosmer, Sec.	36 00	
Kent, Fem. Mrs. Slosson, Ag.	3 50	
Lyme, First Soc. Oliver I. Lay, Tr.	9 00	4 00
Middletown, Luke C. Lyman, Sec.	100 00	
New-London, Robert Coit, Tr.	29 00	10 00
Norwich, Fem. Miss Sarah Backus, Sec.	6 00	
Salisbury, Fem. Julia A. Dodge, Tr.	16 00	
Sharon, Charles F. Sedgwick, Tr.	12 00	
Stratford, Asa Curtis, Tr.	4 21	5 00
West Greenwich, W. B. Sherwood, Sec.	5 14	1 71
N. YORK.—Auburn, Clark B. Hotchkiss, Ag.	32 82	
Do. by their Aux. Aurora.		1 50
Do. by their Fem. Aux. Genoa.		68
Bedford, Westchester Co. Fem. Mrs. Susan S. Nichols, Sec.	6 96	
Berkshire and Newark, Tioga, Co. Marcus Ford, Tr.	9 84	3 31
Bridgehampton, L. I. Rev. Amzi Francis, Pres.	1 07	
Brooklyn, L. I. Joseph Howard, Tr.	40 00	
Cairo, D. Johnston, Tr.	1 75	
Chenango, Broome Co. Rev. Peter Lockwood, Sec.	20 00	
China, Genesee Co. Selah Jackson, Tr.	2 35	
Coxsackie, A. Van Dyck, Ag.	11 20	
Delhi, in 2d Presb. Cong. William Broadwell, Tr.	5 39	1 61
East Granville, Fem. Mrs. Lucy Savage, Sec.	4 15	2 85
Elba, Genesee Co. Phineas Barr, Sec.	7 00	
Fishkill, Fem. Mrs. Sarah P. Dewing, Sec.	2 00	4 56
Fishkill Landing, Fem. Miss M. W. Teller, Sec.	5 00	
Flat Bush, L. I. Fem. Mrs. Laura Johnson, Tr.	27 75	
Do. Ulster Co. P. A. Overpough, Tr.	3 00	
Fort Covington, Rev. John A. Savage, Sec.	5 33	
Glen's Falls, Elias Hawley, Tr.	6 84	
Hopewell in Fishkill, Fem. Ann R. Swartwout, Tr.	8 00	12 00
Hudson, Fem. Mrs. Root, Tr.	9 82	
Keeseville, Fem. Mrs. Ermima Prindle, Sec.	11 00	61
Lodi, Joseph Plumb, Tr.	8 00	
Marbletown, Ulster Co. Lewis J. Haabrouck, Tr.	5 57	3 43
Montgomery, Orange Co. John F. Scott, Sec.	9 34	4 66
Mount Morris, Fem. Mrs. Lucretia C. Sleeper, Sec.	2 50	
New Rochelle, Fem. Miss Sophia Brewster, Sec.	50	3 00

	For Tr.	Don.
New-Windsor, Silas Carwin, Tr.	1 00	
Perry Centre, Talcott Howard, Tr.	6 00	
Rhinebeck, Fem. Mrs. C. Davidson, Sec.	5 00	
Troy, Charles Lyman, Tr.		50 00
Walton, Del. Co. Fem. Miss Hannah N. Seymour, Tr.	2 58	88
Whitehall, James G. Caldwell, Tr.	11 75	
N. JER.—Bloomfield, Juv. Robert B. Kellogg, Sec.	6 94	
Mendham, Fem. Miss Sibyl C. Beach, Tr.	2 00	2 00
Parsippany, Samuel A. Marshall, Sec.	1 32	
Princeton, Fem. Miss F. W. Morford, Tr.	5 06	
Ramapo, David C. Chrystie, Esq. Tr.	75	
Somerville, Fem. Mrs. Sophia Talmage, Tr.	88	
Springfield, Abijah L. Dunnell, Tr.	10 00	
PENN.—Montrose, Susquehanna Co. Jerre Lyons, Tr.	40 00	10 00
Philadelphia Branch, Frederick Erringer, Tr.	394 00	
Pittsburgh, Rev. R. Patterson, Ag.	30 00	
MD.—Baltimore Branch, Carter A. Hall, Tr.	350 00	
Hagerstown, Fem. Mrs. Rebecca L. Martin, Sec.	119 20	
Worcester Co. Fem. Miss Maria E. Bredell, Sec.	6 50	
ALA.—Huntsville, Samuel Coltart, Ag.	20 00	
TENN.—Memphis, (Shelby co. Aux.) Littleton Henderson, Tr.	10 00	
OHIO.—Granville, Rev. Jacob Little, Pres.	5 00	
Jefferson, (Ashtabula Co. Aux.) Rev. Perry Pratt of Harpersfield, Sec.	42 00	
MO.—St. Louis, Missouri and Illinois Tr. Soc. W. S. Olmsted, Tr.	125 00	
MICH. TER.—Monroe, Fem. Miss Charlotte Lawrence, Tr.	7 62	
UP. CAN.—Brockville, Leeds Co. Fem. Mrs. Philena Smart, Sec.	10 62	
SOCIETIES NOT AUXILIARY.		
N. YORK.—Orange Co. S. S. Union, J. W. Wells, Ag.	1 94	
Windham, Greene Co. Fem. Miss Elizabeth B Strong, Tr.	1 50	
Tracts sold at the Depository to individuals.	365 16	

*Directors for Life.*

CONN.—New-Haven, E. F. Backus, Esq.	100 00
N. YORK.—New-York city, Richard T. Haines, in part for perpet. the "Pilgrim's Progress,"	100 00
Mrs. Gerard Hallock, for Do.	50 00
William M. Halsted, for Do.	100 00
PENN.—Philadelphia, 1st Presb. Ch. Rev. Albert Barnes, by Ladies,	50 00

*Members for Life.*

MASS.—South Hadley, Rev. Artemas Boies, by A. T. S. (in full of \$20)	10 60
CONN.—New-Milford, Rev. Herman Rood, by few individ. of his Ch. and Cong.	20 00
Warren, Tertius Reynolds, by his father, (in full of \$20),	5 00
N. YORK.—Binghampton, Mrs. Sarah Hawley, by a Friend,	20 00
N.JER.—Baskingridge, Rev. John C. Vandervoort, by a Friend,	20 00
LOU.—New-Orleans, Mrs. McCullagh,	20 00
OHIO.—Granville, Rev. Jacob Little, by his Bible Class,	20 00
Marysville, Union Co. Rev. Darious C. Allen, by Rev. Thomas G. Allen, Phila.	20 00

*Annual Directors.*

N. YORK.—Brooklyn, L. I. Mr. T. J. Chew,	5 00
New-York city, George Hannah,	5 00

*Other Donations.*

CONN.—Brooklyn, a friend,	1 00
N. YORK.—L. Island, a member of Success church,	3 00
Dashville, few individuals,	5 00
Merideth, Individuals,	1 31
New-York city, A Friend, Premium for a Tract to those interested in Canals and Rail roads,	50 00
Mr. Hamilton,	68
Warsaw, Mrs. Harriet B. Steele,	1 00
N. JER.—Elizabethtown, three little girls,	38

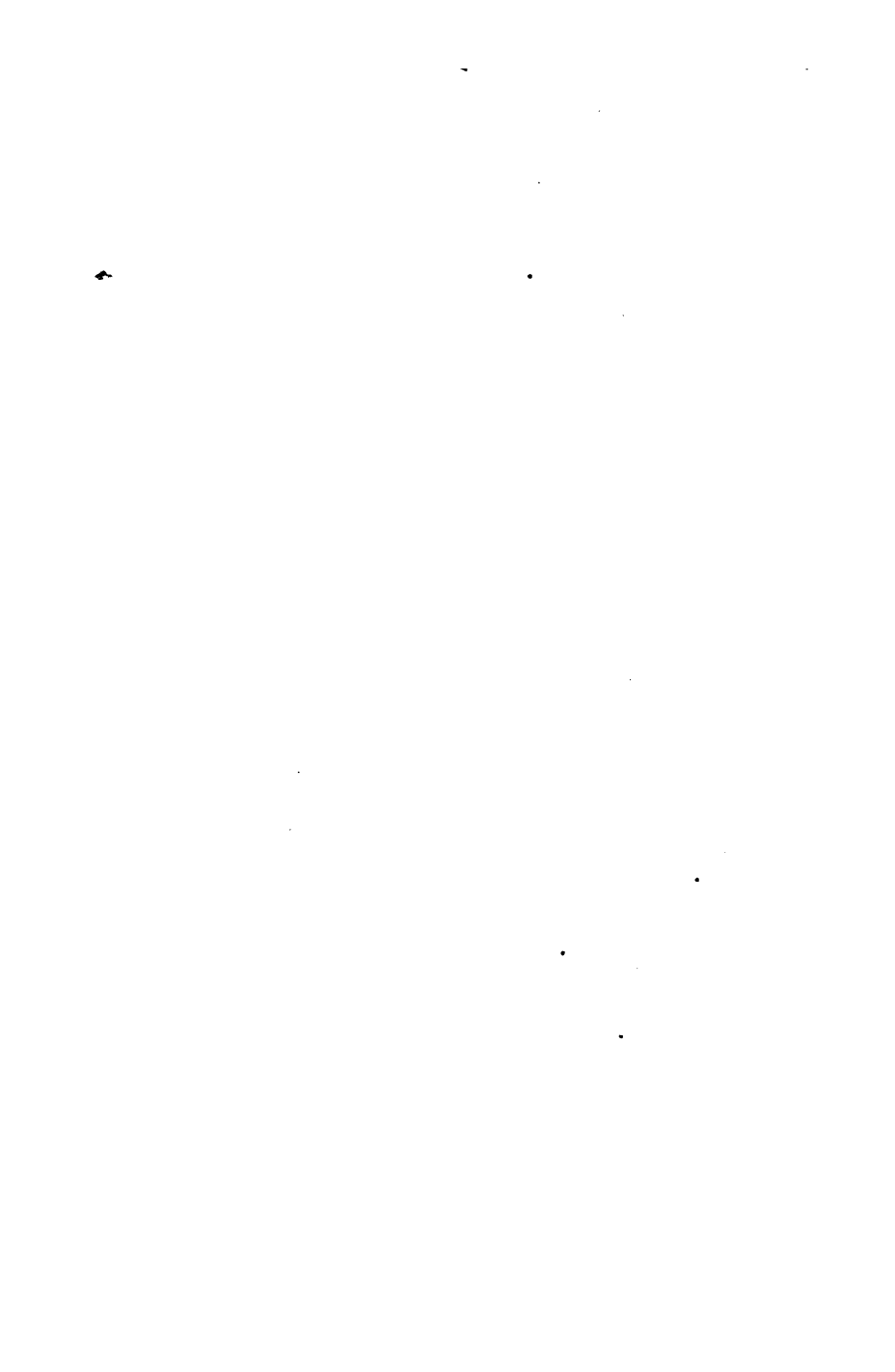
The above list contains donations—

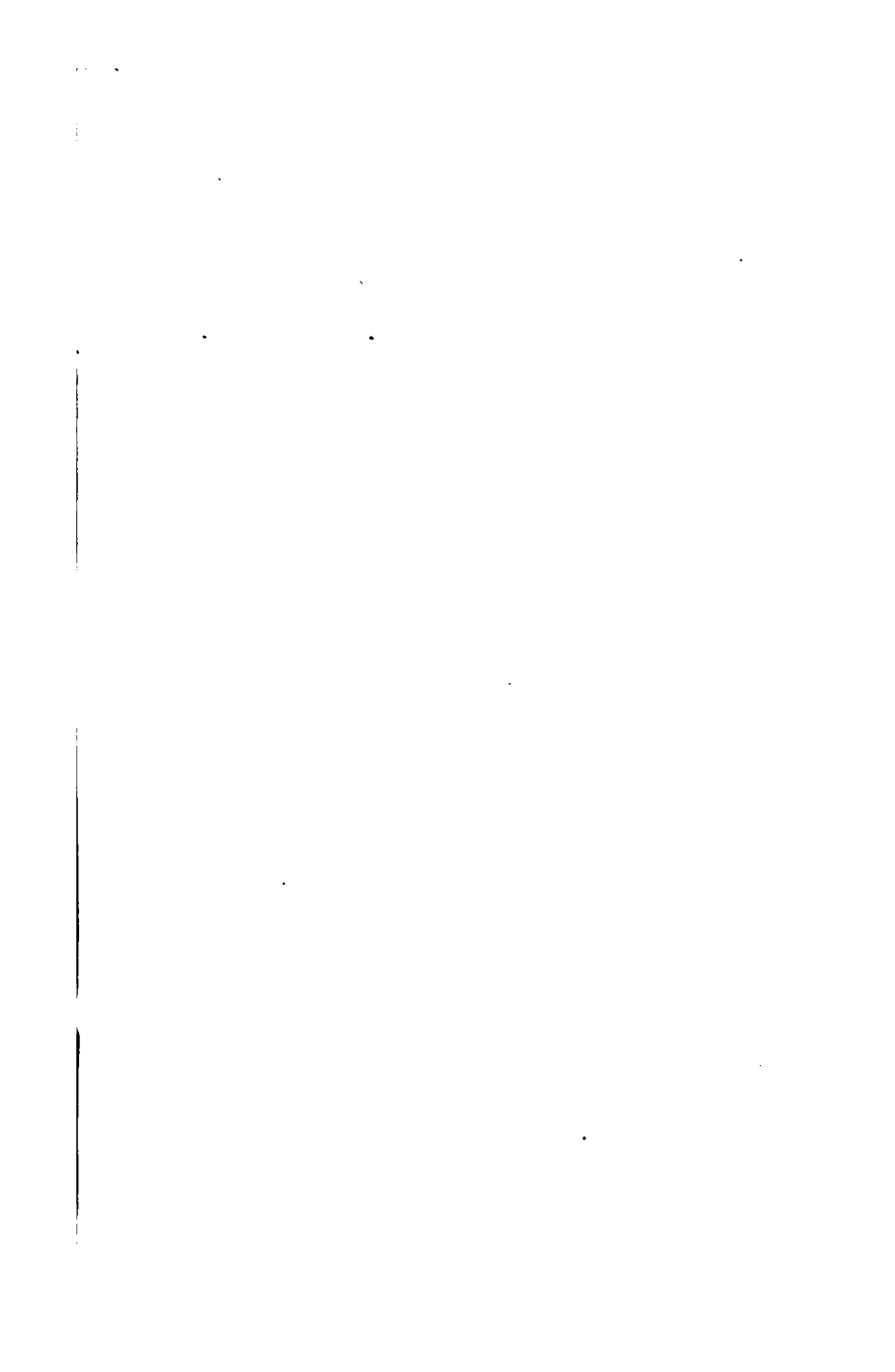
For a Premium Tract,	\$50 00
In part for perpetuating "Bunyan's Pilgrim's Progress,"	250 00
For perpetuating three Tracts for Jews,	144 00

Whole amount of Donations,	\$1,389 96
Received for Tracts sold,	2,495 05

Total, \$3,885 01







1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026, 2027, 2028, 2029, 2030, 2031, 2032, 2033, 2034, 2035, 2036, 2037, 2038, 2039, 2040, 2041, 2042, 2043, 2044, 2045, 2046, 2047, 2048, 2049, 2050, 2051, 2052, 2053, 2054, 2055, 2056, 2057, 2058, 2059, 2060, 2061, 2062, 2063, 2064, 2065, 2066, 2067, 2068, 2069, 2070, 2071, 2072, 2073, 2074, 2075, 2076, 2077, 2078, 2079, 2080, 2081, 2082, 2083, 2084, 2085, 2086, 2087, 2088, 2089, 2090, 2091, 2092, 2093, 2094, 2095, 2096, 2097, 2098, 2099, 2100, 2101, 2102, 2103, 2104, 2105, 2106, 2107, 2108, 2109, 2110, 2111, 2112, 2113, 2114, 2115, 2116, 2117, 2118, 2119, 2120, 2121, 2122, 2123, 2124, 2125, 2126, 2127, 2128, 2129, 2130, 2131, 2132, 2133, 2134, 2135, 2136, 2137, 2138, 2139, 2140, 2141, 2142, 2143, 2144, 2145, 2146, 2147, 2148, 2149, 2150, 2151, 2152, 2153, 2154, 2155, 2156, 2157, 2158, 2159, 2160, 2161, 2162, 2163, 2164, 2165, 2166, 2167, 2168, 2169, 2170, 2171, 2172, 2173, 2174, 2175, 2176, 2177, 2178, 2179, 2180, 2181, 2182, 2183, 2184, 2185, 2186, 2187, 2188, 2189, 2190, 2191, 2192, 2193, 2194, 2195, 2196, 2197, 2198, 2199, 2200, 2201, 2202, 2203, 2204, 2205, 2206, 2207, 2208, 2209, 2210, 2211, 2212, 2213, 2214, 2215, 2216, 2217, 2218, 2219, 2220, 2221, 2222, 2223, 2224, 2225, 2226, 2227, 2228, 2229, 2230, 2231, 2232, 2233, 2234, 2235, 2236, 2237, 2238, 2239, 2240, 2241, 2242, 2243, 2244, 2245, 2246, 2247, 2248, 2249, 2250, 2251, 2252, 2253, 2254, 2255, 2256, 2257, 2258, 2259, 2260, 2261, 2262, 2263, 2264, 2265, 2266, 2267, 2268, 2269, 2270, 2271, 2272, 2273, 2274, 2275, 2276, 2277, 2278, 2279, 2280, 2281, 2282, 2283, 2284, 2285, 2286, 2287, 2288, 2289, 2290, 2291, 2292, 2293, 2294, 2295, 2296, 2297, 2298, 2299, 2300, 2301, 2302, 2303, 2304, 2305, 2306, 2307, 2308, 2309, 2310, 2311, 2312, 2313, 2314, 2315, 2316, 2317, 2318, 2319, 2320, 2321, 2322, 2323, 2324, 2325, 2326, 2327, 2328, 2329, 2330, 2331, 2332, 2333, 2334, 2335, 2336, 2337, 2338, 2339, 2340, 2341, 2342, 2343, 2344, 2345, 2346, 2347, 2348, 2349, 2350, 2351, 2352, 2353, 2354, 2355, 2356, 2357, 2358, 2359, 2360, 2361, 2362, 2363, 2364, 2365, 2366, 2367, 2368, 2369, 2370, 2371, 2372, 2373, 2374, 2375, 2376, 2377, 2378, 2379, 2380, 2381, 2382, 2383, 2384, 2385, 2386, 2387, 2388, 2389, 2390, 2391, 2392, 2393, 2394, 2395, 2396, 2397, 2398, 2399, 2400, 2401, 2402, 2403, 2404, 2405, 2406, 2407, 2408, 2409, 2410, 2411, 2412, 2413, 2414, 2415, 2416, 2417, 2418, 2419, 2420, 2421, 2422, 2423, 2424, 2425, 2426, 2427, 2428, 2429, 2430, 2431, 2432, 2433, 2434, 2435, 2436, 2437, 2438, 2439, 2440, 2441, 2442, 2443, 2444, 2445, 2446, 2447, 2448, 2449, 2450, 2451, 2452, 2453, 2454, 2455, 2456, 2457, 2458, 2459, 2460, 2461, 2462, 2463, 2464, 2465, 2466, 2467, 2468, 2469, 2470, 2471, 2472, 2473, 2474, 2475, 2476, 2477, 2478, 2479, 2480, 2481, 2482, 2483, 2484, 2485, 2486, 2487, 2488, 2489, 2490, 2491, 2492, 2493, 2494, 2495, 2496, 2497, 2498, 2499, 2500, 2501, 2502, 2503, 2504, 2505, 2506, 2507, 2508, 2509, 2510, 2511, 2512, 2513, 2514, 2515, 2516, 2517, 2518, 2519, 2520, 2521, 2522, 2523, 2524, 2525, 2526, 2527, 2528, 2529, 2530, 2531, 2532, 2533, 2534, 2535, 2536, 2537, 2538, 2539, 2540, 2541, 2542, 2543, 2544, 2545, 2546, 2547, 2548, 2549, 2550, 2551, 2552, 2553, 2554, 2555, 2556, 2557, 2558, 2559, 2560, 2561, 2562, 2563, 2564, 2565, 2566, 2567, 2568, 2569, 2570, 2571, 2572, 2573, 2574, 2575, 2576, 2577, 2578, 2579, 2580, 2581, 2582, 2583, 2584, 2585, 2586, 2587, 2588, 2589, 2590, 2591, 2592, 2593, 2594, 2595, 2596, 2597, 2598, 2599, 2600, 2601, 2602, 2603, 2604, 2605, 2606, 2607, 2608, 2609, 2610, 2611, 2612, 2613, 2614, 2615, 2616, 2617, 2618, 2619, 2620, 2621, 2622, 2623, 2624, 2625, 2626, 2627, 2628, 2629, 2630, 2631, 2632, 2633, 2634, 2635, 2636, 2637, 2638, 2639, 2640, 2641, 2642, 2643, 2644, 2645, 2646, 2647, 2648, 2649, 2650, 2651, 2652, 2653, 2654, 2655, 2656, 2657, 2658, 2659, 2660, 2661, 2662, 2663, 2664, 2665, 2666, 2667, 2668, 2669, 2670, 2671, 2672, 2673, 2674, 2675, 2676, 2677, 2678, 2679, 26

